

Haughey elected new Irish premier

DUBLIN (R) — Charles Haughey, the great survivor in Irish politics, Tuesday narrowly became prime minister for the third time when the speaker of parliament used his casting vote to break an 82-82 tie and put him into power. His victory, one of the most spectacular political comebacks in a colourful career that has been rocked by scandals and challenges to his leadership, saved Ireland from being plunged into yet another election campaign. Left-wing independent deputy Tony Gregory facilitated Haughey's win by deciding at the last moment to abstain. After a tense day of high drama in Ireland's 25th parliament, the leadership vote was tied 82-82 and the new speaker, independent Sean Treacy, stepped in to ensure Haughey can now bring in a minority government.

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Dajani reshuffles governors

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Interior Rajai Dajani Tuesday issued a communique transferring 20 governors and district governors from their present positions to new posts and appointing two new deputy governors. Among those affected by the transfers were Mr. Eid Qataneh, governor of Ma'an, who has been appointed governor of Zarqa, deputy governor of Amman Mohammad Jariri, who was made governor at the Ministry of Interior, and the deputy governor of Balqa, Jamal Al Momani, who became acting governor of Ma'an. The two appointees were Mr. Mohammad Hahashneh who was named deputy governor of Karak and Mr. Ismail Jarrah who became deputy governor of Mafraq.

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King receives cables of good wishes

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Tuesday received a cable from the former head of the military council in Sudan, Field Marshal Abdul Rahman Swareddahab, expressing appreciation for the hospitality accorded him during his stay in the Kingdom. King Hussein also received a cable from Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu who was flying through Jordanian airspace on his way to India. The president wished the King health and happiness and more progress and prosperity for the Jordanian people. He also lauded the strong ties of friendship between Romania and Jordan.

Rifai chairs Cabinet meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai chaired a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday. The gathering endorsed a number of decisions.

Turkey says Ammarin has no immunity

ANKARA (R) — A military court decided Tuesday that a Jordanian embassy employee charged with spying has no diplomatic immunity because he is a long-term resident of Turkey, Anatolian Agency said. Adnan Musa Suleiman Ammarin, a Jordanian working as a translator at his country's embassy, and a Turk, Ali Kent, face 15 years in prison if found guilty on charges of gathering information on military installations for Syria.

Egypt, Congo urge Mideast peace talks

CAIRO (R) — Congo agreed with Egypt Tuesday that an international Middle East peace conference should be called and that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should attend. Egypt and Congo "agree that peace efforts should continue in the context of an international conference to be attended by all the parties concerned, including the PLO," a communique said.

Andreotti meets with Craxi

ROME (AP) — Premier-designate Giulio Andreotti, trying to overcome Socialist opposition to his attempt to form a new government, met Tuesday with Bettino Craxi and said he received assurances the Socialist leader had nothing personal against him.

Babbitt enters presidential race

MANCHESTER, N.H. (R) — Former Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt Tuesday officially declared himself a candidate for the Democratic nomination in the 1988 U.S. presidential race. Babbitt, 49, heir to a \$20-million family fortune, tested a campaign slogan by declaring his desire to put "America in charge again."

Human rights body condemns abductions

GENEVA (R) — A French resolution condemning hostage-taking throughout the world was unanimously adopted by the 43-nation U.N. Human Rights Commission. The resolution demanded the release of hostages of all nationalities and called on governments to punish abductors.

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Camps war erupts again as Syrian troops raid AUB

Relief supplies blocked from reaching Shatila

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Mortar and sniper fire broke out Tuesday around a Palestinian refugee camp after heavy overnight clashes in south Beirut that killed four people and injured seven, militia sources said.

Shooting blocked a relief convoy sponsored by Saudi Arabia which was trying to reach a besieged Palestinian refugee camp in Beirut Tuesday, a Palestinian spokesman said. He said three refugees were wounded when Shi'ite Muslim Amal militiamen fired on four trucks carrying supplies donated by a Saudi Arabian charity, the Aid Committee of the Two Holy Shrines, as they approached Shatila camp in southern Beirut. "The shooting stopped the relief operation and the trucks went back," the spokesman said. An Amal source denied that the militia had opened fire. In mainly Muslim west Beirut, three explosions caused alarm, but police had no immediate reports of casualties. Witnesses said a woman was slightly hurt when a stick of dynamite exploded in a rubbish heap near the West German embassy, closed for more than a month. Police said another stick of dynamite, apparently hurled from a speeding car, went off in a rubbish heap near the waterfront and a bomb exploded under a car parked near the Bristol Hotel, a few metres from a Syrian army checkpoint. Witnesses said Syrian troops briefly blocked roads near the sites of the blasts, the first reported in west Beirut since more than 7,000 Syrian soldiers deployed there on Feb. 22 to crack down on militia anarchy. The Syrians have not taken control of the beleaguered Palestinian camps of Shatila or Bourj Al Barajneh. Sniper and mortar fire erupted around Shatila after overnight camps fighting killed four people and injured seven.

France increasing aid to Chad

PARIS (R) — President Francois Mitterrand said Tuesday France was continually boosting its aid to Chad and declared that a solution to the conflict in the central African state would depend primarily on military strength. "French aid to Chad is increasing with each month," Mr. Mitterrand told reporters at a diplomatic press lunch. France, which last month strengthened and redeployed its Chad force, now has over 2,200 men backing President Hissene Habre in his conflict with Libyan and rebel troops. So far French soldiers have not joined in fighting in the north but provide logistical support and air cover within a defence perimeter stretching to the 16th parallel. Mr. Mitterrand said there appeared little hope of a peaceful settlement, saying: "Libyan troops continue to occupy illegally a part of Chadian territory. This poses a military problem."

Chad war to top OAU agenda in Cairo meeting

ADDIS ABABA (R) — A group of African leaders will gather in Cairo Wednesday for talks on the conflict in Chad and other issues in a mid-term review of the work of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). Chad is likely to be the liveliest issue although there is little sign that the OAU or other would-be peacemakers are having any influence on the struggle between the Western-backed government of Hissene Habre and Libyan forces entrenched in the north. Sanctions against South Africa are also a recurrent topic at African gatherings, with Kenya in particular facing increasing pressure from other nations to ban stop-overs by flights to Johannesburg. The meeting is expected to discuss Africa's economic problems, especially its growing international debt, and the OAU's own financial troubles, which have forced cut-backs in its bureaucracy and operations. Several heads of state have confirmed that they will be going to Cairo for the one-day meeting of the OAU Coordinating Bureau elected at last July's summit.

PLO factions hold reconciliation talks

TUNIS (R) — Factions of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) are involved in talks in Tunis and Algiers aimed at reconciling their differences, a PLO spokesman said Tuesday. Three Syrian-based groups, which have opposed PLO leader Yasser Arafat, were taking part in the talks to prepare for a session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the PLO's parliament-in-exile. Representatives of five factions, including Mr. Arafat's Fatah group and two Syrian-based organisations, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the Palestinian Communist Party, were due to hold a third day of talks in Tunis Tuesday. PLO spokesman Ahmad Abderrahman told Reuters. The two other groups in Tunis are the pro-Arafat Palestine Liberation Front of Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas) and the Arab Liberation Front. The sixth group involved is the Syrian-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP). Its leader, George Habbash, met Mr. Arafat's military deputy, Khalid Al Wazir, in Algiers Monday night, Mr. Abderrahman added. All the groups are due to meet in Algiers this week to continue talks there, he said. The last PNC session was held in Amman in November, 1984. Mr. Wazir, also known as Abu Jihad, told Reuters here before leaving for Algiers Monday that no date had yet been set for a PNC meeting, which is due to be held in the Algerian capital. He refused to be drawn on an issue which has proved a stumbling block in PLO reconciliation talks — the suspended 1985 PLO-Jordanian accord on joint Middle East peace moves. Abu Jihad is due to go to Prague and Moscow after the Algiers talks. Mr. Abderrahman said, without giving details of who he would see there. The talks in Tunis have been at the level of deputy leaders of factions and the Algiers meetings planned this week are scheduled to last two days, he added. Iraq's Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Mr. Arafat Monday reviewed latest developments in the Iran-Iraq war. The official Iraqi News Agency DNA said they also discussed Palestinian and Arab issues. Mr. Arafat arrived in the Iraqi capital Sunday.

Israeli government defeats no-confidence motion

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's coalition government Tuesday defeated four no-confidence motions in parliament over its handling of the Jonathan Pollard spy affair which is clouding relations with Washington. An Israeli newspaper said the United States was restricting intelligence cooperation with Israel to show its displeasure over the promotion of an Israeli officer who recruited the U.S. navy analyst to spy for the Jewish state. (See story on page 2). Three opposition left-wing factions and Rabbi Meir Kahane's anti-Arab Kach Party proposed the no-confidence motions, but the nine-party government's overwhelming majority defeated the motions on a show of hands. Political tension has been high in Israel since Pollard, 32, was sentenced to life imprisonment by a Washington court last week for passing secret U.S. documents to Israel. "What happened here? Amateurism? Stupidity? Irresponsibility?" asked Victor Shemtov from the leftist Mapeam Party during the parliamentary debate. "It turns out it was all those three things together."

U.S., Soviets resume Euromissile talks following expressions of optimism

GENEVA (R) — The United States and the Soviet Union Tuesday opened a special session of talks on curbing medium-range nuclear missiles with a preliminary meeting that set out a brisk pace for coming days, a U.S. official said. The meeting at the Soviet diplomatic mission was the first by the group negotiating on those weapons since the seventh round of U.S.-Soviet talks on nuclear and space arms adjourned last Friday. Both sides agreed then that the talks on intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) — part of three-tier negotiations dealing separately with medium-range missiles, long-range missiles and space weapons — would continue beyond that date. The decision followed proposals made last week by both sides for radical cuts in the superpowers' medium-range nuclear arsenals. The U.S. official said negotiations decided at Tuesday's session to meet three times a week — Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday — with possible additional sessions at the request of either side. No more details filtered from the closed-door talks, and it was not clear how long the latest INF discussions would last. An eighth round of the full superpower talks begins on April 23. Soviet officials declined immediate comment on the meeting. Earlier Tuesday an American spokesman said Washington's team would start detailing the latest U.S. draft treaty. Under the plan now envisaged, the Soviet Union would withdraw its triple-warhead SS-20 missiles aimed at Western Europe while the United States would eliminate its Pershing-2 and cruise missiles. Each side would be permitted 100 atomic warheads outside Europe. The latest U.S.-Soviet arms control effort began on an optimistic note, with chief Soviet negotiator Yury Vorontsov saying a breakthrough had been made and predicting a treaty within three to four months. His American counterpart Max Kampelman has been more cautious, saying he was aiming at the spring of 1988 but refusing to set a specific date.

Golan Arabs protest Israeli killing of woman

TEL AVIV (AP) — Arab inhabitants of the Golan Heights went on strike Tuesday to protest the killing of a 51-year-old woman who was shot in the head by Israeli police during a demonstration. In a separate development elite Syrian troops raided the chaotic American University of Beirut (AUB) early Tuesday and detained for several hours 15 student representatives of rival Druze and Shi'ite Muslim militias, police said. Several pistols and submachine guns were seized in the raid, which a police spokesman termed as a "warning" to students to refrain from political activities on campus. Police said commando paratroopers of the Syrian army's Special Forces staged the five-hour search-and-arrest raid at the AUB's two men's dormitories. Witnesses said the students were dragged out of bed and trucked away in the raid that ended at daybreak.

Freij criticises EC aid to West bank

TEL AVIV (R) — The Palestinian Mayor of Bethlehem, Elias Freij, attacked the European Community (EC) Tuesday for failing to provide significant assistance to the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza. "I believe the European position is not encouraging in any way," Mr. Freij said in a radio interview after talks in Jordan on an economic development plan for the occupied territories. He complained that the 12-nation Community had offered only \$3 million in aid to the occupied territories this year, after \$2 million in 1986, of which half went on scholarships for Palestinians to study in Europe. "There is not a single project in the West Bank which was financed by any European country," Mr. Freij said. If the EC really wanted to help, it should give at least \$30 million, he added. The EC representative in Israel, Gwyn Morgan, said the \$3 million was only "a beginning of the commitment by the Community in that area."

Honduran combat jets shoot down unknown aircraft

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — Honduran combat jets shot down an unknown C-47 transport near El Salvador after it entered from Nicaragua and flew over Tegucigalpa, ignoring all calls to identify itself, military authorities said Tuesday. A Honduran military spokesman said the plane was shot down at 11:30 Monday night (0530 GMT Tuesday) by jets that caught up with it near Cucuyagua, located in Copan province 40 kilometres from El Salvador and 30 kilometres from Guatemala. The spokesman, Col. Manuel Suarez Benavides, speaking on Radio HRN, did not mention any survivors and said investigators were examining the wreckage to try to identify the plane. He said that Honduran combat jets were dispatched to follow the plane, which he said appeared to be a C-47.

Majali in Morocco after talks in Tunis

CASABLANCA (Agencies) — Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Prime Minister Affairs Abdul Wahab Al Majali flew in from Tunis on Tuesday for talks with Moroccan officials on means to strengthen cooperation between the two countries. Prior to his departure from Tunis, he was received by Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba at the Carthage Palace. Mr. Majali arrived in Tunis on Sunday on a three-day visit here during which he met with Tunisian Prime Minister Rachid Sfar and both men agreed to boost cooperation. During his stay in Tunis, Mr. Majali was received on Tuesday by Mr. Ahmad Ibn Arafah, the state secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs responsible for international cooperation. During the meeting, both Mr. Majali and Mr. Ibn Arafah stressed the need to increase the exchange of visits between Jordanian and Tunisian businessmen and the need to promote both countries' products. On Monday, Mr. Majali also held talks with Energy Minister Salaheddine Ben M'harka on ways of increasing cooperation in the mining sector and in fertiliser production. Mr. Majali was seen off at Tunis airport by Mr. M'harka, a number of Tunisian officials and Jordan's ambassador to Tunisia. Mr. Majali is accompanied by director of the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company Wasif Azar.

Bodies of 15 ferry victims sent to Britain

ZEEBRUGGE, Belgium (Agencies) — Fifteen more bodies of victims of the North Sea ferry disaster were sent to England on Tuesday, following a first group of 18 bodies taken the previous night by freighter. Officials said they all were British nationals. Twenty other bodies have been taken to a hospital in nearby Bruges, awaiting identification. Of the 53 confirmed dead, 41 have been identified by kin, officials said and 81 are presumed dead, trapped inside the half-sunken Herald of Free Enterprise ferry that capsized outside Zeebrugge Harbour. There were 409 survivors. "Thirty-three bodies are now in England," said Jane Lawrence, a spokesman for Townsend Thoresen, the ferry company. Salvaging inspector Hans Walekamp of Smit Tak International, the Dutch company that will try to salvage the ferry, said it would take at least three weeks to pull the ferry upright. "Our first aim will be to reach the bodies," he told a news conference. But he said divers would only go into the ferry as long as it was "prudent" to do so. Walekamp said his firm planned to position three barges with hydraulic heaving equipment off the stricken vessel. They will pull the ferry upright by 32 cables to be welded to 32 "strong points" along the main deck from bow to stern. Once the cables have been fastened, he said, the capsized ferry could be pulled upright in one day, after which water would be pumped out and the ship towed back into Zeebrugge Harbour, about 1,000 metres away. Meanwhile in Bremerhaven, West Germany, the ferry builders' chief engineer said Tuesday the capsized British ferry did not have signal lights on the bridge that show when the bow doors are open. Juergen Buessenschnett told Reuters that four similar roll-on-roll-off ferries owned by Townsend Thoresen were rebuilt last year and had modifications, including a door warning system on the bridge. The Herald of Free Enterprise did not have such an installation.

Freij criticises EC aid to West bank

TEL AVIV (R) — The Palestinian Mayor of Bethlehem, Elias Freij, attacked the European Community (EC) Tuesday for failing to provide significant assistance to the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza. "I believe the European position is not encouraging in any way," Mr. Freij said in a radio interview after talks in Jordan on an economic development plan for the occupied territories. He complained that the 12-nation Community had offered only \$3 million in aid to the occupied territories this year, after \$2 million in 1986, of which half went on scholarships for Palestinians to study in Europe. "There is not a single project in the West Bank which was financed by any European country," Mr. Freij said. If the EC really wanted to help, it should give at least \$30 million, he added. The EC representative in Israel, Gwyn Morgan, said the \$3 million was only "a beginning of the commitment by the Community in that area."

Shevardnadze opens talks in Kampuchea after bomb in Laos

BANGKOK (R) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze opened talks on the Kampuchea issue in Phnom Penh Tuesday after a visit to Laos shattered by a bomb blast outside a Soviet office in Vientiane. The embattled Phnom Penh government, under attack by anti-Vietnamese guerrillas and stunned by the non-Communist world, greeted him with strong reminders of Moscow's staunch support for it in the past. Phnom Penh Radio said Mr. Shevardnadze arrived from Vientiane, where residents said a powerful bomb killed one Lao man and injured another Monday outside the Soviet Cultural Centre in a main street of the capital. The residents said the early morning blast appeared aimed at embarrassing Laos' secretive government, which has since 1975 been tightly aligned to Moscow's ally Vietnam and has received large amounts of Soviet military and economic aid. It was not clear whether Mr. Shevardnadze, who will also travel to Vietnam this week, was due to visit the centre, which was also the target of a bomb blast in 1982. The Kremlin minister, on his first tour of Indochina and South East Asia, has not presented any new ideas on ending the eight-year-old Kampuchean war, the deepest diplomatic issue facing Moscow in its drive to improve ties with Asia. In Moscow, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman confirmed an explosion had taken place in Vientiane Monday during Mr. Shevardnadze's visit. Gennady Gerasimov told reporters: "We have only got preliminary information that there was an explosion in the centre of the city. We have no additional information as to the causes and the results." Vietnam has been diplomatically isolated since it overthrew the Khmer Rouge and installed Heng Samrin in power in 1979 along with 140,000 troops. The United Nations recognises the three-party guerrilla coalition led by Prince Norodom Sihanouk as the legitimate government and regularly calls on Hanoi to withdraw. Sihanouk is also backed by China, the Association of South-East Asian Nations and Western countries. After his arrival, Mr. Shevardnadze laid a wreath at a monument to fallen Kampuchean Communists, the state-run radio said.

Spy case reportedly affecting U.S. cooperation with Israel

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has ordered the Pentagon to restrict its cooperation with Israel following the Jonathan Pollard spy scandal, the Hadashot newspaper said Tuesday.

The report quoted U.S. sources as saying the cutback was in areas in which Israel enjoyed special treatment, an apparent reference to intelligence and strategic cooperation.

A U.S. embassy official declined to confirm or deny reports that Washington was restricting intelligence cooperation and rejecting bids by Israeli companies for American security contracts.

Hadashot said Mr. Weinberger had ordered close security supervision of Israeli diplomats in the United States and any visiting Israeli defence officials.

On Monday night, Israeli stateman Abba Eban vowed to investigate the spy scandal involving Pollard, a U.S. navy intelligence analyst sentenced to life imprisonment by a Washington court last week for passing secrets to Israel.

"We have read that this matter does not call for any further action," said Eban, chairman of Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, and a former foreign minister.

"That is the government's view, but it is not binding on the Knesset (parliament)," he said.

The Labour Party legislator said his group's intelligence subcommittee would investigate the scandal and reserved the right to summon all those involved to appear.

Three left-wing opposition parties, Mapam, the Citizens' Rights Movement and the Progressive List for Peace submitted no-confidence motions to parliament for debate Tuesday.

Mr. Shamir appeared Monday before Mr. Eban's full committee but refused to answer questions on the government's handling of the affair and said Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin might provide details when he meets the subcommittee on Thursday.

The right-wing Likud Party leader rejected calls for an investigation as hysteria.

"There is no need for a commission of inquiry," Shamir said in a speech Monday night to the Israel Bar Association.

"(What happened) is usually known to those who should know and whoever does not know, should continue not knowing," he said.

"The committee has not had the privilege of hearing any re-

port on the Pollard affair apart from the description of our concern as a kind of hysteria," Mr. Eban said. "I protest at the level and style of the prime minister's statement."

Israeli leaders say the Pollard's spying activities were planned behind their back by a now-disbanded intelligence unit of the Defence Ministry.

The espionage affair has put Eban, an eloquent Cambridge-educated spokesman for Israel, back in the limelight at home, where he admits, he enjoys less popularity than he does abroad.

Eban, 71 last month, has not been a cabinet member since 1974 when he ended an eight-year term as foreign minister under the cloud of the Labour government's failure to foresee the 1973 Middle East war.

Shamir said Tuesday the rift over the Pollard spy case must now be allowed to heal.

Shamir also said a committee headed by prominent legislator Abba Eban that hoped to investigate the affair had no right to do so.

Shamir sought Tuesday to downplay the tension, saying: "This is a hitch which occurred 15 months ago and the process of healing has been going on since then. All this talk of treachery is exaggerated. We must explain, calm down and heal."

He said: "Eban cannot invite everybody to the committee."

That just doesn't happen here."

Israeli fund established to help Pollards

An Israeli group calling itself "Citizens For Pollard" appealed Tuesday for donations to help Jonathan Pollard and his wife jailed for spying for Israel.

"If the Israeli government does not, then the citizens of Israel should give encouragement and support to the Pollards. They need it and deserve it," the group said in a newspaper advertisement.

The advertisement gave the numbers of two bank accounts to which donations could be made.

A Washington court last week sentenced Pollard to life imprisonment for passing hundreds of top-secret documents to Israel.

His wife, Amie, implicated in the affair, received a five-year term. The Israeli media reported that they faced legal fees estimated at \$200,000.

Asked by reporters if Israel would help Pollard, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said: "The state of Israel did not hire him or assign him any espionage missions."

"Therefore, the situation of this family is perhaps a human or moral problem but it is not one the country has to concern itself about."

Kuwait, Sudan join in bid to reconcile leaders of S. Yemen

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait reported Tuesday to have been joined by Sudan in a bid to reconcile South Yemen's leaders and refugee opponents as a step towards improved ties between Aden and North Yemen.

Kuwait has long tried to bridge differences between the Yemeni neighbours, on the southern tip of the Arabian peninsula, which began talks in 1982 on a merger.

Kuwait's Al Watan newspaper said Tuesday Sudan was also seeking to patch up differences between the rival Marxist factions in South Yemen.

Arab diplomats say Kuwait has stepped up its role as mediator since its emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, became symbolic head of the Islamic World.

As host of a summit of Islamic leaders last January, he assumed the chairmanship of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) for three years.

Kuwait's minister of state for foreign affairs, Saud Muhammad Al Osaibi, visited Aden Monday after a stop in North Yemen with messages from Sheikh Jaber for the leaders of both countries.

The nature of the contacts, taking Mr. Osaibi on his second peace shuttle in a month, were not made public.

The diplomats say Kuwait is seeking to heal rifts between Aden's ruling faction, led by President Haider Abu Baker Al Attas, and opponents who took refuge in North Yemen after the overthrow in January 1986 of President Ali Nasser Mohammed.

Al Watan Tuesday quoted Sudanese Prime Minister Sadeq Al Mahdi as saying his foreign minister, Sharif Hindi, had been in Sanaa, the North Yemeni capital, and would visit Aden to encourage the factions to close ranks.

It was not immediately clear whether the Kuwaiti and Sudanese missions were linked.

Mr. Attas and North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh met in Libya last May to review ties after relations soured following the clashes earlier in the year.

Diplomatic sources in the region said Aden's demand for the return of its refugees from North Yemen was the main obstacle towards progress in the unity talks.

The whereabouts of Ali Nasser, who has vowed to wrest back control in Aden, are unclear. He has been reported variously in Ethiopia, Syria and North Yemen.

Mr. Attas, during a meeting with Mr. Osaibi Monday night, thanked Kuwait for its efforts to strengthen Arab solidarity — a key goal spelled out by the emir at January's OIC summit meeting.

ADC to hold convention on April 2

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) will hold its 1987 National Convention on April 2-5 at the Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel in Crystal City, Virginia.

Entitled "Arab America: A Strong New Voice," ADC's convention will attract upwards of 3,000 Arab-American civic and business leaders from throughout the United States. It promises to be the largest political gathering of Arab-Americans in recent memory.

A full schedule of panel discussions will focus on the emergence of Arab-America as a vital, proactive and articulate interest group in the American social and political scene.

The distinguished speakers and panelists scheduled to address the convention include FBI Director William Webster; Trans-Africa Director Randall Robinson; Rep. Lee Hamilton, Chairman of the House Select Committee on U.S. Arms Transactions with Iran; Dr. Edward Said; Los Angeles Times reporter David Lamb; author of The Arabs: Journeys Beyond the Mirage; award-winning investigative journalist Robert I. Friedman; former hostages David Jacobsen and Rev. Martin Jenco; attorney Dan Storrer of the defence team of the Palestinian deportation case in Los Angeles; and many more.

Speakers and panelists will discuss a wide range of topics concerning the challenges facing the Arab-American community in the years to come.

Last year, ADC, the largest grassroots organisation of Arab-Americans, successfully organised its membership into a potent force dedicated to defending its civil rights and its cultural identity. Haagen-Dazs, Pillsbury, Coleco Industries, Elektra Records, Warner Communications, Cinnam Films, Weyerhaeuser Corp. and several smaller companies all have come to realise that Arab-Americans are here to stay.

The 1987 ADC National Convention will infuse our community with renewed vitality and will give ADC a mandate for growth and grassroots action on every level in 1988.

Khashoggi tells of 'jest' over Iran arms deal

NEW YORK (R) — Saudi businessman Adnan Khashoggi was quoted Tuesday as saying he deliberately deceived senior U.S. officials in the Iran arms affair.

The New York Times quoted Mr. Khashoggi as saying he deceived former Central Intelligence Agency Director William Casey and other officials who used him as an intermediary in the sale of U.S. arms to Iran.

Mr. Khashoggi also said Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) officials believed him when he told them in jest that his financial records were buried under seven hills in the Saudi desert.

He said the officials took him seriously and wrote to the Saudi Embassy in Washington to try to recover his records.

Mr. Khashoggi told the newspaper he deceived Mr. Casey by inventing a group of Canadians whom he said threatened to reveal the secret arms sales unless they were immediately reimbursed for a \$10 million contribution they had supposedly made towards buying the weapons.

He said the story was intended to increase pressure on the Reagan administration to repay money owed to an associate.

Corporations controlled by Mr. Khashoggi played a major role in financing the arms sales to Iran and the diversion of some of the profits to Nicaraguan contra rebels.

Senate and House committees are investigating the sales and diversion of the profits and a commission headed by former Senator John Tower criticised President Reagan for not paying close enough attention to the activities of his aides in the affair.

Mr. Khashoggi also said the United States had frozen six of his bank accounts, containing about \$60 million, while investigators try to track down what happened to the money from the Iran arms sales.

But he said U.S. investigators had been unable to find all his accounts because they did not even know the names of all his companies.

Opposition group says 18 executed in Tehran jail

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — An exiled Iranian opposition group said Tuesday that 18 political prisoners were executed last month at Tehran's Evin Prison.

The claim by the People's Mujahadeen, made in a letter from its office in Washington, D.C., could not be independently confirmed and the Iranian government had no immediate comment.

The group said the 14 men and four women were put to death at the end of February, without giving a date, and named the tortured man as Rasoul Mohammadzadeh Shahryari.

The Mujahadeen said they were political prisoners but did not give details of the offences they were being held on.

The group, the largest fighting

the Islamic government, also said there were no political prisoners among the thousands of detainees pardoned recently by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

On Monday, the Mujahadeen said in a letter from its Baghdad office that its guerrillas killed more than 20 Revolutionary Guards in clashes Feb. 18 in the south eastern city of Ahvaz.

It said its fighters also killed the commander in charge of guarding a television transmission station in south eastern Iran on Feb. 23.

In an earlier clash Feb. 13, guerrillas attacked a government building in Mashhad in north eastern Iran, the group said. It gave no details of government casualties in that attack.

The Mujahadeen did not report any casualties among its fighters.

Libya says Lange using 'colonialist logic' in Pacific

LONDON (R) — Libya said New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange had resorted to "colonialist logic" in remarks about a Libyan diplomatic drive in the South Pacific.

Libyan television Monday night quoted a Foreign Ministry "source" in Tripoli as saying Libyan moves to establish ties with states in the region were a "sovereign decision" which did not depend on the will of New Zealand or any other country.

The television, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), quoted the source saying in a statement Mr. Lange was "not appointed by the peoples and countries of the West

Indian Oceans as a spokesman for them."

"They are peoples who understand their interests and the role of colonialist powers in the region," the statement said.

The term "West Indian Ocean" apparently was used in reference to the South Pacific.

"The actual danger threatening to security and independence of the West Indian Ocean countries derives in fact from France, which occupies the Kanak people in New Caledonia, and America which makes the waters of the Indian Ocean into a theatre for manoeuvres and nuclear tests threatening the peoples of this region," the statement said.

Turkey reportedly holds 12 Kurdish guerrillas

ANKARA (R) — Turkish security forces captured 12 Kurdish rebels near a village on the Iraqi border where 14 civilians were massacred last month, the daily Gunes said Tuesday.

The newspaper said they were members of the underground-Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) — which has been held responsible

for the killings — and were carrying guns, grenades and propaganda material.

There was no confirmation of the report.

Gunes said this brought to 16 the number of PKK rebels held in a massive military operation in the area, while a further 138 people were also detained.

U.S. said to be behind Canada's rejection of attache

TEL AVIV (AP) — The United States gave the go-ahead to Canada to reject Israel's candidate for military attache, the English-language Jerusalem Post has reported.

Canada's Foreign Minister Joe Clark turned down the nomination of Brig.-Gen. Amos Yaron, Israel's military attache in Washington, saying it would not be "appropriate" to grant him diplomatic accreditation. Mr. Clark did not elaborate but Cana-

dian observers said it was because of Yaron's role as commander of Israeli forces in Beirut during the massacre of hundreds of Palestinians in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in September 1982.

According to the Post's Washington correspondent, the U.S. government, which accepted Yaron as military attache last August, is now trying to have him recalled to Israel.

Minister asked to show reason for not extraditing criminal

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel's supreme court ordered Justice Minister Avraham Shari Tuesday to show cause why a Jew convicted of killing an Arab nightclub owner in France should not be extradited there.

Supreme court President Meir Shamgar told a packed court hearing that Shari must justify his Dec. 4 decision not to extradite William Nakash, 25, on grounds his life would be in danger in a French prison.

Nakash, now an Israeli, was sentenced to life imprisonment in his absence by a French court on charges of killing an Algerian

nightclub owner in Besancon in 1983.

He fled his native France soon after the killing and became an Israeli under the "law of return," which allows all Jews to claim Israeli citizenship, except if sought on criminal charges abroad.

A French extradition request was filed when the authorities learned that Nakash was in a prison here in connection with an attempted hold-up.

Nakash now says he has become a newly-observant Jew and has found support among religious Jews who have mounted a powerful public campaign here against his extradition.

'Israel tops U.S. list of Pretoria arms sellers'

TEL AVIV (R) — Israel tops a U.S. State Department list of countries cooperating with South Africa in possible violation of an international arms embargo on Pretoria, the Ha'aretz newspaper said Tuesday.

The list is in the draft of a report to be submitted to the U.S. Congress on April 1 concerning nations which cooperate militarily with Pretoria despite the embargo, the newspaper said, quoting government sources in Israel.

A sanctions law enacted by the United States last year despite objections by President Reagan authorises Congress to stop U.S.

military aid to countries violating the arms ban.

Israel, which asked the United States for \$3 billion this year, is believed to be a major arms supplier to Pretoria. Israeli leaders refuse to discuss the deals.

Ha'aretz said the State Department draft report focused mainly on Israel's links with South Africa but also mentioned four European countries. The newspaper did not name the countries.

Israeli officials fear the final report will come down hard on Israel during a period of strained relations with Washington over the Jonathan Pollard spy case, the newspaper said.

Abu Nidal indicted in Rome airport attack

ROME (AP) — Abu Nidal and two other Palestinians have been indicted in the 1985 attack that killed 16 people at Rome's main airport, a Rome newspaper reported on Tuesday.

Last month judicial sources reported that Domenico Sica, one of Italy's top investigators, had recommended the indictment of Abu Nidal, who heads the Fateh Revolutionary Council. Actually named Sabri Al Banna, Abu Nid-

al split with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) in 1973. La Repubblica newspaper reported on Tuesday that Rosarin Priore, an investigating magistrate, had reviewed Mr. Sica's request and had decided to indict Abu Nidal, Rashid Al Hamieda and Mahmoud Ibrahim Khaled, who was the only terrorist to survive the Dec. 27, 1985, massacre at Leonardo Da Vinci Airport.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
16:30 Cartoons (Funtions)
16:10 Children's programme
17:00 Children's programme
17:30 Walt Disney
18:10 Arabic series
19:20 Local programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Message from Cairo
21:00 Arab series
21:40 Wrestling
22:45 Arab series
23:30 News in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Des chiffres et des lettres
18:20 L'ecole des Reims
19:00 News in French
19:15 Aujourd'hui en Jordanie
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 Varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Three's Company
21:10 Documentary: "A gentle way with cancer" (ep. 2)
22:20 Bestseller: Captain and the Kings eps. (6)

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 9580 KHz. SW
Tel: 77411-19

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:05 Morning Show Contd.
11:00 Country Music
11:30 News Summary
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Readings
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 Follow the Wind
15:00 Concert Hour
15:00 News in Summary
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
17:00 Old Favorites
17:30 Jordan Weekly
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Rock Profile
18:30 Music
19:00 News Desk
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1325 KHz

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 People and Pets
06:40 Book Choice 06:45 Reflections
06:50 Financial News 07:00 World News Summary
07:05 Report on Religion 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Meridian 08:40 World News 09:20 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 Development
09:35 News Summary 10:30 News 10:45 World News 10:50 World News 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News
11:35 Look Ahead 11:45 Choice of Britain 12:00 News Summary 09:00 12:30 My World 13:00 World News 13:05 News About Britain 13:15 People and Pets 13:25 A Letter from Wales 13:30 Meridian 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Masterpiece in Miniature 14:25 The Farming World 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Development
15:35 News Summary 16:15 Rock Salad 16:45 Report on Religion 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 A Music of World 17:30 After Henry 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Rock Salad 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 A Letter from Wales 19:15 Technologies for the 21st Century 19:30 News Ideas 19:40 Book Choice 19:50 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsdesk 20:05 News Summary: Rock Salad 20:10 News Summary: Rock Salad

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9585, 1740, 11225 and 12310 Hz

05:00 News 05:10 Newsline 05:30 VOA Morning 06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsline 09:30 VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 Newsline 10:30 VOA Morning 11:00 News 11:10 Newsline 11:30 VOA Morning 12:00 News 12:10 Newsline 12:30 VOA Morning 13:00 News 13:10 Newsline 13:30 VOA Morning 14:00 News 14:10 Newsline 14:30 VOA Morning 15:00 News 15:10 Newsline 15:30 VOA Morning 16:00 News 16:10 Newsline 16:30 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 VOA Morning 18:00 News 18:10 Newsline 18:30 VOA Morning 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 VOA Morning 20:00 News 20:10 Newsline 20:30 VOA Morning 21:00 News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 VOA Morning 22:00 News 22:10 Newsline 22:30 VOA Morning 23:00 News 23:10 Newsline 23:30 VOA Morning 24:00 News 24:10 Newsline 24:30 VOA Morning 25:00 News 25:10 Newsline 25:30 VOA Morning 26:00 News 26:10 Newsline 26:30 VOA Morning 27:00 News 27:10 Newsline 27:30 VOA Morning 28:00 News 28:10 Newsline 28:30 VOA Morning 29:00 News 29:10 Newsline 29:30 VOA Morning 30:00 News 30:10 Newsline 30:30 VOA Morning 31:00 News 31:10 Newsline 31:30 VOA Morning 32:00 News 32:10 Newsline 32:30 VOA Morning 33:00 News 33:10 Newsline 33:30 VOA Morning 34:00 News 34:10 Newsline 34:30 VOA Morning 35:00 News 35:10 Newsline 35:30 VOA Morning 36:00 News 36:10 Newsline 36:30 VOA Morning 37:00 News 37:10 Newsline 37:30 VOA Morning 38:00 News 38:10 Newsline 38:30 VOA Morning 39:00 News 39:10 Newsline 39:30 VOA Morning 40:00 News 40:10 Newsline 40:30 VOA Morning 41:00 News 41:10 Newsline 41:30 VOA Morning 42:00 News 42:10 Newsline 42:30 VOA Morning 43:00 News 43:10 Newsline 43:30 VOA Morning 44:00 News 44:10 Newsline 44:30 VOA Morning 45:00 News 45:10 Newsline 45:30 VOA Morning 46:00 News 46:10 Newsline 46:30 VOA Morning 47:00 News 47:10 Newsline 47:30 VOA Morning 48:00 News 48:10 Newsline 48:30 VOA Morning 49:00 News 49:10 Newsline 49:30 VOA Morning 50:00 News 50:10 Newsline 50:30 VOA Morning 51:00 News 51:10 Newsline 51:30 VOA Morning 52:00 News 52:10 Newsline 52:30 VOA Morning 53:00 News 53:10 Newsline 53:30 VOA Morning 54:00 News 54:10 Newsline 54:30 VOA Morning 55:00 News 55:10 Newsline 55:30 VOA Morning 56:00 News 56:10 Newsline 56:30 VOA Morning 57:00 News 57:10 Newsline 57:30 VOA Morning 58:00 News 58:10 Newsline 58:30 VOA Morning 59:00 News 59:10 Newsline 59:30 VOA Morning 60:00 News 60:10 Newsline 60:30 VOA Morning 61:00 News 61:10 Newsline 61:30 VOA Morning 62:00 News 62:10 Newsline 62:30 VOA Morning 63:00 News 63:10 Newsline 63:30 VOA Morning 64:00 News 64:10 Newsline 64:30 VOA Morning 65:00 News 65:10 Newsline 65:30 VOA Morning 66:00 News 66:10 Newsline 66:30 VOA Morning 67:00 News 67:10 Newsline 67:30 VOA Morning 68:00 News 68:10 Newsline 68:30 VOA Morning 69:00 News 69:10 Newsline 69:30 VOA Morning 70:00 News 70:10 Newsline 70:30 VOA Morning 71:00 News 71:10 Newsline 71:30 VOA Morning 72:00 News 72:10 Newsline 72:30 VOA Morning 73:00 News 73:10 Newsline 73:30 VOA Morning 74:00 News 74:10 Newsline 74:30 VOA Morning 75:00 News 75:10 Newsline 75:30 VOA Morning 76:00 News 76:10 Newsline 76:30 VOA Morning 77:00 News 77:10 Newsline 77:30 VOA Morning 78:00 News 78:10 Newsline 78:30 VOA Morning 79:00 News 79:10 Newsline 79:30 VOA Morning 80:00 News 80:10 Newsline 80:30 VOA Morning 81:00 News 81:10 Newsline 81:30 VOA Morning 82:00 News 82:10 Newsline 82:30 VOA Morning 83:00 News 83:10 Newsline 83:30 VOA Morning 84:00 News 84:10 Newsline 84:30 VOA Morning 85:00 News 85:10 Newsline 85:30 VOA Morning 86:00 News 86:10 Newsline 86:30 VOA Morning 87:00 News 87:10 Newsline 87:30 VOA Morning 88:00 News 88:10 Newsline 88:30 VOA Morning 89:00 News 89:10 Newsline 89:30 VOA Morning 90:00 News 90:10 Newsline 90:30 VOA Morning 91:00 News 91:10 Newsline 91:30 VOA Morning 92:00 News 92:10 Newsline 92:30 VOA Morning 93:00 News 93:10 Newsline 93:30 VOA Morning 94:00 News 94:10 Newsline 94:30 VOA Morning 95:00 News 95:10 Newsline 95:30 VOA Morning 96:00 News 96:10 Newsline 96:30 VOA Morning 97:00 News 97:10 Newsline 97:30 VOA Morning 98:00 News 98:10 Newsline 98:30 VOA Morning 99:00 News 99:10 Newsline 99:30 VOA Morning 100:00 News 100:10 Newsline 100:30 VOA Morning 101:00 News 101:10 Newsline 101:30 VOA Morning 102:00 News 102:10 Newsline 102:30 VOA Morning 103:00 News 103:10 Newsline 103:30 VOA Morning 104:00 News 104:10 Newsline 104:30 VOA Morning 105:00 News 105:10 Newsline 105:30 VOA Morning 106:00 News 106:10 Newsline 106:30 VOA Morning 107:00 News 107:10 Newsline 107:30 VOA Morning 108:00 News 108:10 Newsline 108:30 VOA Morning 109:00 News 109:10 Newsline 109:30 VOA Morning 110:00 News 110:10 Newsline 110:30 VOA Morning 111:00 News 111:10 Newsline 111:30 VOA Morning 112:00 News 112:10 Newsline

Haj Hassan returns from Arab labour conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan returned to Amman on Tuesday after representing Jordan at the 15th meeting of the Arab Labour Organisation's (ALO) conference held in Baghdad.

In a statement upon returning to Amman, the minister said that the participants discussed a report by the ALO director general on the relationship between technology, development and employment, the ALO's activities and achievements and ALO recommendations concerning promoting the organisation's various centres and institutes.

Also on the agenda was the subject of the ALO's participa-

tion in the 73rd meeting of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to be held in Geneva in June, the minister continued. He said Jordan submitted two proposals concerning measures for supporting the steadfastness of Arab workers under Israeli rule, adding that the proposals were endorsed by the majority of delegates.

Mr. Haj Hassan delivered Jordan's address to the meeting in which he spoke about the condition of Arab workers, Israel's confiscation of Arab property in Palestine and the Iraq-Iran war. He also met with a number of Arab ministers attending the ALO conference.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Municipality modifies traffic lights

AMMAN (Petra) — Modifications to the traffic light system in Amman have been made to speed up the movement of vehicles at junctions. A municipality spokesman said that traffic lighting systems at a number of junctions have been reorganised so that the amber light will no longer be used when the light changes from red to green. But, he said, the amber light will show when changing from green to red. This system was shown to have saved five per cent waiting time at a model junction.

Refinery donates JD 10,000 to universities

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) has decided to donate JD 10,000 annually to the University of Science and Technology and Mrta University. A JPRC spokesman said that similar annual contributions go to the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University.

U.S. women's delegation due today

AMMAN (Petra) — A U.S. women's delegation is due here today for a visit to Jordan and talks with Jordanian women's unions. A spokesman for the Ministry of Social Development's women's department, which organised the visit, said that the 15-member delegation will discuss promoting cultural exchanges between U.S. and Jordanian women's federations and will familiarise themselves with the achievements of Jordanian women in various fields. The delegation members will also be taken on a tour of archaeological sites and Palestinian refugee camps in the Kingdom.

Zarqa destroys spoiled foodstuffs

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Municipality on Tuesday destroyed a large quantity of canned food unfit for human consumption and warned that it will intensify inspection tours to ensure that store keepers abide by regulations concerning food supplies sold to the public. Mr. Badr Bahaudin from the municipality said that merchants violating the regulations would be referred to court for trial. Dr. Rabah Bourim, director of the health services in Zarqa, was present when the confiscated food stuffs were destroyed.

Municipality to attend housing symposium

AMMAN (Petra) — Greater Amman Municipality will take part in a 3-day pan-Arab symposium on low-cost housing, due to be held in Tunis on March 17. During the symposium, which is organised by the Arab Ministers of Housing and Reconstruction Council's technical secretariat, in cooperation with the Tunisian Ministry of Housing, participants will discuss a number of issues, pertaining to development planning and housing policies and strategies. They will also discuss methods and means followed in implementing low-cost housing projects and quality of materials used and financing systems.

University to host symposium on plasticulture technology

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day symposium on the technology of plasticulture will open at the University of Jordan's Faculty of Agriculture on Monday, according to Dr. Mohammad Suwvan, who is rapporteur of a committee preparing for the symposium.

Dr. Suwvan said that the participants will discuss technology used in implementing a plasticulture research project being conducted by a team from France, University of Jordan specialists and agricultural engineers. He said that the symposium will discuss the subject of modifying plastic coverings used for growing crops in dry and semi-arid regions.

The results of joint research conducted over the past five years will also be on the agenda and will be discussed by specialists from Jordan, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and West Germany in addition to French organisations. According to Dr. Mahmoud Dweiri, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan, the joint French-Jordanian project is being conducted within the framework of bilateral cooperation and the teams involved in the project have conducted a series of research works designed to improve the quality of local crops.

Save the Children Fund to hold spring festival on April 3

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Jordanian Save the Children Fund (SCF) will hold a 1987 spring festival at the Plaza Hotel in Amman on April 3 under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, chairperson of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QASWF).

A spokesman for the hotel said that the event will include a variety of activities for children including a puppet show, lottery, and a fancy dress party in addition to other forms of entertainment and a charity bazaar. The Armed

Forces band will take part in the festival and prizes and gifts will be distributed to children, according to the spokesman. The organisers expect to entertain 3,000 children and other visitors whose contributions will benefit Save the Children Fund programmes and activities.

The SCF, which was founded in Jordan in 1974, carries out integrated health and social service projects for mothers and children in different parts of the country.

Jordanian child wins prize in UNICEF art competition

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian child was one of the winners in a world's children art competition in Japan held as part of the celebrations and activities marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Rasheed Sultan Al Roussan, aged 10, from Jordan was awarded a prize for his colourful drawing of birds on a tree.

The Japan committee for UNICEF organised the event in which forty countries took part, and provided 846 drawings, in addition to 400,000 entries from

Japan, according to a UNICEF press release. The children's art exhibition toured the cities of Tokyo, Nagoya, Fukuoka, and Osaka during the months of August and November 1986.

Drawings of children from kindergarten, primary, and junior high school groups were displayed by the touring exhibition, each noting the name, sex, age and nationality of the child. These drawings depicted scenes from daily life, landscape, houses, clothes and children's games.

No plans to freeze privatisation of TCC, Hussein says

By Rana Sabhagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Minister of Communications Muhieddine Al Hussein said Tuesday that the government has no plans to freeze the privatisation scheme of the government-owned Telecommunications Corporation (TCC).

"Suggestions to this effect (freezing privatisation of the TCC) are untrue. There is no retreat whatsoever on our announced plans to privatise the company," Mr. Hussein told the Jordan Times.

The Cabinet last year endorsed the transformation of the TCC into a public-shareholding company, with the government holding all shares, as a first step towards changing it into a properly market-oriented commercial entity. At a later stage, the government is to decide on whether or not to private sector participation will be sought. "We have endorsed the principle of privatising TCC and we still stick to our decision," said Mr. Hussein.

The minister was commenting on speculation that the government has withdrawn its preliminary approval to privatise a number of public companies into shareholding institutions operating on a commercial basis. The privatisation plans cover the TCC, the Royal Jordanian airline and the Public Transport Corporation.

"As far as we (the TCC) are concerned, things are moving on the right track. But I cannot comment on the standings of other companies included in the government's privatisation plans," said Mr. Hussein.

"We are heading towards transforming the TCC's status in a relentless drive. We have embarked on practical steps to achieve this goal," said Mr. Hussein, during an interview in his office at the ministry's new headquarters off the Eighth Circle.

The actual transformation of the TCC into a public sharehold-

ing company involves three phases and is expected to be completed in two years from now, said Mr. Hussein, who also chairs the company's board.

According to the minister, Jordanian expertise and the company's staff are mainly employed to do assessments regarding the three stages, and in rare instances, foreign expertise might be sought. Five experts from British Telecom, the consultancy arm of British Telecom — which itself has been recently privatised — completed their assessment of the viability of the TCC privatisation.

The first step is working on a new financial and accounting order for the TCC, changing its accounting procedure from the government accounting method into commercial notes and balance sheets, he explained. "It will be ready in a year from today," the minister said.

Draft law

The second stage of the company's transformation would be "charting a law" to govern its activities through legal means.

A year or more will be needed to draw up the company's draft law, before it is endorsed by the Cabinet, Parliament and later enforced by Royal Decree, he added.

Stage three will entail evaluating TCC's assets based on a profit in capital ratio to determine the value of each share, and the number of shares to be divided amongst the public sector.

"If we decide to sell shares to the private sector, we'll be seeking underwriting companies and some consultancies — if needed — to guide the process," Mr. Hussein said. "We shall need a long time from now before the third stage is completed and before we decide on whether or not we want the private sector's participation," he continued.

The TCC, which employs almost 4,000 staff, posted JD 42 million in total revenues for 1986,



Muhieddine Al Hussein

out of which JD 22 million were counted as net profits, according to Mr. Hussein.

Private participation

Indicating government hesitation over private sector participation in the TCC, he said: "Until now, there is no concrete visualisation on the volume of and the possibilities of opening the door for the private purchase of some of the TCC's total shares."

"Private sector participation will depend on the government's attitude and perceptions when the right moment comes in the future," he said.

Mr. Hussein stated that the privatisation scheme pertaining to the TCC was not launched to improve its financial position or to increase its revenues, which are stand out in comparison with other service-oriented public-owned companies.

According to the minister, the whole step was undertaken in order to provide the corporation with financial and administrative independence and flexibility as well as to remove the red-tape in decision making and taking.

TCC has held a monopoly over the Kingdom's telecommunications services since 1971, and well-placed sources have estimated the corporation's total assets and investments at JD 400 million.

Preparatory committee draws up framework for int'l conference on Jordan's history

AMMAN (J.T.) — A committee entrusted with preparing for the Fourth International Conference on the History and Archaeology of Jordan Tuesday ended its two-day meeting in Amman after working out a final framework for the conference's deliberations and objectives. The conference is due to be held in the French city of Lyon in 1989 and a host of scholars from France, Jordan and other nations are expected to participate in the meetings.

Summing up the committee's work over the past two days, Dr. Adnan Al Hadidi, director gener-

al of the Department of Antiquities, said that the planning committee took decisions and resolutions which could contribute towards the success of the conference, the fourth international symposium on Jordan's history and archaeology.

The committee members expressed appreciation for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan's opening speech to the committee meeting on Monday when he called for a revision of studies and archaeological discoveries in Jordan and Palestine. The Crown Prince said sound,

scientific studies would present a more balanced and more correct picture about the history of the region and could refute all falsehoods, inaccuracies and biases which characterised some previous studies, Dr. Hadidi said.

The committee, he added, has set up a sub-committee to follow up on the implementation of Prince Hassan's proposals.

In addition, the committee formed a second sub-committee grouping Jordanian and French scholars to work out a final agenda for the conference, Dr. Hadidi pointed out.

Egyptian writer calls on men and women to work together against social injustices

By Najwa Najjar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Unless men and women work together to free their society from the "grip of the enemy", women in the Middle East will never be liberated, said Mrs. Fatima Assal, a well-known Egyptian playwright.

Addressing the Jordanian Writers' Association (JWA), Mrs. Assal said: "I am against the idea that man is the main oppressor of Arab women." She believes that because man himself is enslaved, he wants to enslave others.

According to Mrs. Assal, societies in the Arab World are imprisoned by the West and imperialism because their economies are tied to international capitalism. She used the open door policy of Egypt as an example: "This policy opened Egyptian society to capitalism, whetting the consumers' appetites, (especially women's) for foreign imports. As a result, salaries were not enough to accommodate the consumers' needs and the income was no longer spent on national goods," Mrs. Assal said. "Similarly, Arab consumers became fuel for foreign industries," she said.

Mrs. Assal, who was invited by the JWA to speak at a six-day seminar which ended Sunday and which was entitled "the causes of Jordanian women" said that only if a society is free, can there be free individuals. "Therefore, both men and women must work together to overcome the forces which control society. As we look at our tradition and history to understand our reality, we will understand that men and women have one cause, and that is the cause of society," she said, "and history and tradition can not be changed without an overall transformation."

"The aim of women's struggle is to be free from the male domination, not to hate men, but to write in order to fight reaction-

ary forces and laws, imperialism and Zionism in the region and in order to form a free society," said Mrs. Assal, who is a member of the executive committee of the Egyptian coalition party and secretary general of the writers in the party.

Women's causes and political issues

She noted with dismay that the present trend is to separate women's causes and social/political causes. Mrs. Assal said that the international women's conference held in Cairo last year would not take a stand against Camp David nor (Israeli Prime Minister Shimon) Peres visit which was taking place at the time of the conference. "We were told we should not mix politics and women's issues," "Then we found out why," she continued. "The conference was organised by the Ford Foundation."

Mrs. Assal related a personal experience to an enthusiastic crowd gathered at the JWA to hear her speech. "When I was 10, my father would not let me out of the house. I never entered school, as my father did not think it was important. I saw this as a social reality we live."

"We must be aware of the realities we are living in the Arab World," she said and proposed the establishment and encouragement of institutions, societies, unions and clubs for this purpose. "A lecture, the JWA, the street, all institutions can be part of an awareness campaign," Mrs. Assal said.

On her part Mrs. Assal has translated her ideas into plays. In one of her works, Mrs. Assal portrays the man as sensitive but one who becomes devoid of emotion as a result of responsibilities, which he did not ask for, being placed on his shoulders from the day he was born. "It was his upbringing which split man and woman. When the boy in the

story cries, his father hits him, and when his father dies and the boy cries again, his mother hits him saying 'your father did not raise a man.' From that day the boy saw the woman as a weak and repulsive creature."

Self education

Although the Egyptian playwright has not attended school, she taught herself how to read and write and then studied the art of writing scenarios at an institute. She wrote her first programme for radio in 1956 and her first play in 1957 — in which she described the pain a woman experiences when her husband marries for a second time. Ten years later she wrote her first episodes for television.

Presently, all her new plays are forbidden to be shown on Egyptian television, but that has not stopped Mrs. Assal from writing. One play, called "Confrontation," is about acts of betrayal from the British occupation until now. The play of 17 episodes took her two years of continuous work to complete. Because of her plays and political beliefs, Mrs. Assal has been imprisoned several times.

In addition to being a member of the coalition party, Mrs. Assal is a member of the Egyptian writers and artists association, and is on the executive committee of the progressive women's organisation in Egypt. She has also opened a school for illiterates. Mrs. Assal lives in Cairo with her husband, Abdulla Toukhy, a writer, and her four children.

Crown Prince continues series of open meetings to review new direction of education policy

SALT (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Tuesday underlined the need to reassess the educational situation in Jordan in order to improve the quality of education.

This reassessment is required so that the country can define its needs of education for the future, especially since Jordan is now involved in discussing the educational policy of the Kingdom, covering general education, higher education, school textbooks, syllabuses, teachers and all other factors which are part of the education policy, the Crown Prince said.

Addressing a meeting of educationalists, directors of education departments and teachers in Balqa Governorate, Prince Hassan said that his current series of tours in various governorates were part of an effort for conducting an evaluation and

appraisal of the educational process. He expressed hope that through his study of the situation and in cooperation with educationalists, a new educational policy would be finalised. "A special educational team has worked out the framework of this policy, and we are now involved in continuous sessions for arriving at a final version before putting the finishing touches to this policy," Prince Hassan said.

He said that a process of re-appraisal is essential for different reasons, but largely for the sake of identifying the needs of the labour market. "I believe that we still lack guidance for the proper choice of trades, vocations and

professions which are most useful for the Kingdom and which can meet the Jordanian community's needs and the aspirations of the youth at the same time," Prince Hassan said.

The meeting, which was held at the girls comprehensive school in Salt, was attended by Minister of Education Thouqan Al Hindawi, senior Ministry of Education officials and directors of education departments in the Balqa region.

Prince Hassan called for a special meeting in which teachers from all over the country could take part in order to discuss school syllabuses. This meeting which the Crown Prince suggested should be held during the summer holidays, should involve a thorough analysis of school curriculum, cooperation between parents and teachers and other factors affecting education, he said.

Seminar reflects concern over curbing drugs problem whilst still manageable

By Sa'ad G. Hatfar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Justice Minister Riyad Shaka'a said Tuesday that Jordan does not have a "grave narcotics problem" compared to other neighbouring countries. The minister's assertion came in a speech he delivered at the outset of a two-day seminar on narcotics and their socio-economic impact on society, the second seminar on the subject in two weeks, reflecting growing official concern over the need to curb the problem before it grows to larger proportions.

Over the past two months, several drug traffickers were caught by security forces and large quantities of narcotics were seized, hitting the front pages of newspapers and bringing to the fore the scale of a potential narcotics problem and the need to launch preventative measures.

In his speech to the seminar, which was organised by the Business and Professional Women's Club (BPWC), Mr. Shaka'a said that the government was formulating a new draft law governing narcotics cases. The new draft law, currently being assessed by the legislation bureau, would introduce harsher sentences against drug dealers and traffickers. One article in the new legislation entitles the court to issue the death sentence against armed drug-traffickers should they resist the anti-narcotics squad and if any shooting resulted in the death of one of the anti-narcotics personnel, the minister said.

law will impose penalties on doctors, pharmacists and drug stores should they violate rules which prohibit the sale of medications without medical prescriptions.

The draft law will give exceptional authority to all the concerned authorities entrusted with combating drug trafficking, the minister told the seminar which was jointly patronised by himself and Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh.

In his speech, Dr. Hamzeh shed light on his ministry's newly established drug rehabilitation centre for the rehabilitation of drug addicts. He said that the Ministry of Health was keen to enact a comprehensive national programme — defining the role of all concerned authorities — in order to head-off the drug problem before it grows. In the past, Dr. Hamzeh added, Jordan was not worried about a handful of drug smugglers who used the Kingdom as transit point, but recently substantial quantities of drugs were found to have entered the country.

Public Security Department (PSD) Director Lieutenant-General Abdul Hadi Majali said that his department has managed to apprehend some of the most dangerous international rings dealing with drugs. Lt-Gen. Majali said that 319 drug trafficking cases have been brought to justice over the past few years, convicting 775 people of different nationalities.

Prosecutor General Sa'id Durra also delivered a speech in which he outlined the legal aspects and legislations related to

narcotics cases. Mr. Durra also spoke about Jordan's cooperation in this regard with other Arab countries.

Earlier, the club's president Hind Abdul Jaber delivered a speech in which she spoke of the need to curb the narcotics problem and the importance of recommendations likely to come out at the end of the seminar.

The audience then heard a working paper presented by lawyer Ahmad Najdawi which included a study on the present narcotics law and its applications. Lawyer Tawfiq Salem presented an outline of the projected narcotics draft law which is expected to come into force once it has passed through the usual constitutional stages.

The application of the narcotics law as well as the role of the Public Security Department in combating drug addiction were two working papers presented respectively by Brigadier Ghaleb Suleiman and Colonel Hashem Qaisi.

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Americans count the cost of ageing

The question of who pays the bills for the growing longevity of the U.S. population has barely been tackled, says Nancy Dumme, who reports on the expensive problem of health insurance.

WASHINGTON — Marie, a short, spry Italian-American in her eighties, is living out her life in the comfort of her long-time family home, but she is a pauper. Nothing remains of the substantial assets she accumulated with her late husband Philip. After her death, her house will be sold and the proceeds will go to the nursing home where Philip, a stroke victim, spent his last years and died.

Death makes everyone equal, but for many Americans the leveling process occurs earlier — when the elderly or infirm enter nursing homes for full-time care. With the average cost about \$22,000 a year, few of the 1.5 million Americans in nursing homes can afford the long-term, often terminal stay. Bit by bit, their assets are sold off until they are impoverished enough to qualify for government assistance under the Medicaid programme for the poor.

"What most people fear, especially older Americans... is that home health care or nursing home bills will eat up their savings... and they will go broke, flat-out broke," said Senator John Melcher, chairman of the Senate special committee on ageing.

It was this fear that many

Americans hoped the president would set to rest in his long-awaited plan for health insurance against catastrophe. But the proposals made public in February over opposition from administration conservatives fell far short of the comprehensive insurance coverage which lobbyists for the elderly wanted.

The president's scheme, developed by Dr. Otis Bowen, Secretary of Health and Human Services, calls for an expansion of the present Medicare programme which pays about 45 per cent of the medical costs of the nation's 28 million citizens over 65 and 3 million disabled.

Under the president's plan, for a monthly premium of \$4.92, Medicare beneficiaries would receive an unlimited number of days in paid hospital care and the cost of the doctor and hospital bills would be met after the first \$2,000 a year. The plan does not cover the cost of medicine, eye and dental care.

With conservatives complaining that the plan is just another "big government" solution, many in Congress hastened to praise it as "an important first step." Senator David Durenberger of Minnesota, a ranking Republican on the Senate finance committee, agreed that "it is unconscionable

that we have let senior citizens and the disabled impoverish themselves at the very time they are the sickest.

"The most serious criticism that can be offered," he added, "is that it is far too little."

The criticism resounded around Capitol Hill, where the elderly, who constitute a powerful lobbying group, have influence far beyond their numbers. A number of legislators say that the first \$2,000 cannot be afforded by those who need coverage most urgently — those with incomes between \$8,000 and \$10,000 a year and who do not qualify for Medicaid.

Others complain that the scheme does not protect the estimated 2.8 million individuals under the age of 65, whose medical expenses are now running in excess of \$3,000 each year. Nor is help suggested for the 35 million Americans who have no health insurance at all, or for those whose insurance does not provide good basic protection, let alone protection against catastrophe — which goes as far as covering for terminal illness.

It is by no means certain that Congress, in its present budgetary straitjacket, can do much more than the president has proposed. In the 21 years since Medicare was enacted, the costs of the biggest U.S. social welfare programme have soared from \$3.7 billion to more than \$70 billion.

At the same time, the costs of medical care have rocketed — last year they rose seven times as fast as the consumer price index despite all efforts by the government to restrain spending.

Several options will be considered in Congress, including:

- * Requirements that employers provide insurance coverage against catastrophe.
- * Government subsidies for private insurance.
- * Tax breaks to encourage individuals to buy private policies.
- * Changes to expand current Medicaid or Medicare coverage.

The president's proposal is likely to pass and the search for further answers will go on. Even among liberals, any suggestion of socialised medicine remains anathema, but the acute, expensive problem of health care is destined to worsen. The elderly population doubled between 1950 and 1980 and it is expected to double again by 2030, when those over 65 will comprise more than 21 per cent of the population.

Meanwhile, the elderly are living longer. By the year 2040 nearly one-third of those over 65 will be living parents. Already the nursing homes are filled with patients whose visiting children are, themselves, grandparents. The question of who will pay the bills for the growing longevity of the population has barely been tackled — Financial Times feature.

Capturing essence of Arab art in different ways

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Three exhibitions opened in Amman last week and although each is markedly different from the other they all, to some extent, show how western influences can be adapted to produce art that is totally Arab in essence. Sometimes, as in the case of Nasser Odeh, whose watercolours, oils and pastels can be seen at the Jordan Artists' Association premises in Jabal Weibdeh, they are oriental by the sheer dint of their subject matter. At other times it is something in the style that gives the work its Middle Eastern flavour. With Kayyad Amr, whose work is now on exhibition at "The Gallery" in the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel, it is a mixture of both.

Odeh has long been known for his pastel work but at this exhibition it is his watercolours of Jordan's northern countryside that must take pride of place. In fresh, feathery light colours applied with confidently large strokes of the brush, Odeh has caught the vastness of the arching sky over the flat and empty landscapes. He found around Irbid, that roll away into the distance. Odeh learnt his watercolouring techniques while on a course in Britain, but his colours — the yellows, greens, and terracottas of the foreground and the pale melting pinks, oranges, lemons and

purples of the ever widening skies — and the way he has applied them give his landscapes their distinctly local feel.

The most successful of Odeh's pastels bear much in common with these watercolours. Depicting the south of the country, these, in contrast with his other pastel work, whose heavier darker shades are applied in blocky strokes, are full of blended shades — yellows, salmon pinks, greens and ochres — that portray the endless reaches of the big, dusty landscapes of the region.

Odeh's oils on the other hand, much influenced as they are by the work of Nicolas de Stael, while good, do however lose a lot of the indigenous feel of his other work.

Kayyad Amr's subject matter like that of Odeh is taken from all he sees around him but unlike Odeh he paints not only the landscapes but also the villages and their inhabitants about their daily lives. In vivid Van Gogh-like colours, he catches the impression of a girl and her goat, the blocky houses rising up the hillside, while in the gentle grey of the pencil he draws more precisely the flock of sheep passing through a village, the man selling kerosene from his horse-drawn tank, the camels gathering — all bumps, necks, legs and tails. All are distinctly Jordanian images and are made even more so by the slightly stylised light Amr



Landscape by Nasser Odeh

gives to his forms and by the way one shape echoes another, carried out at times to form abstract patterns that put one in mind of traditional Islamic geometrical designs.

The loose, very spontaneous style of Egyptian-born artist Ibrahim Tanbouly, whose work can be seen at the Petra Bank Art Gallery until Monday, is in direct contrast to Amr's careful rendering. A style like that however needs just as much care to make it work and, unfortunately, this is not always the case and the standard of the work at the exhibition is therefore somewhat inconsistent. When it is good, Tanbouly's work is indeed effective as for example the still life of the chair over which is thrown a coat, an umbrella and a radio still plugged into the socket on the wall, all of

which is given great vitality by the hurried application of seemingly arbitrary colour and disarray of lines. Also good is the vase of flowers — depicted as a splash of scarlet and cyclamen next to which hangs a sober, bare light bulb.

Tanbouly's expressionistic-like figures are at times arresting. With a few lines and even less colour, he achieves striking compositions full of hints of light and shade that hold the attention while his witty portrayals of the violinists make one smile with pleasure.

As can be seen, it is not Tanbouly's universal subject matter that gives his work its unique Arabness, but rather the symbols he employs that seem to emerge from nowhere, having previously been part of something else.

Scientists press search for life on other planets

By Christopher Hanson
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Reports of a huge flying saucer over Alaska not long ago have pointed up a space age paradox within the scientific community.

Many scientists are very sceptical about supposed sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs), but many of these same scholars believe the galaxy is teeming with intelligent life and support projects for the search for extraterrestrial intelligence, dubbed Seti.

Scientists with the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) have embarked on an official mission to expand vastly the scope of the search.

The Alaska incident was reported last November by Japan Air Lines pilot Kenji Terachi, who said his plane was trailed for an hour by a walnut-shaped craft

twice as big as an aircraft carrier, with a broad brim at its centre and bright running lights.

He said the UFO stayed with him as he descended 4,000 feet and circled, and that his plane's weather radar picked it up.

The Federal Aviation Administration initially reported that it, too, had detected a craft on radar, but later said a malfunction may have created a duplicate radar image of the cargo plane itself.

The Alaska incident was widely dismissed by space experts as just another inconclusive episode.

Thousands of people including former President Jimmy Carter have reported seeing UFOs.

That has not shaken the scepticism among scientists like University of Virginia physicist James Trefil, who says there has never been an unambiguous case in all these sightings.

Even so, Trefil told a recent conference at Washington's

Smithsonian Institution, the conventional wisdom among scientists also holds that "we are not alone."

Given the millions of stars in the Milky Way, the probability that many of them have planets with environments suitable to life, and the billions of years in which civilisations could have evolved, these scientists say it is likely the galaxy has many advanced civilisations.

Their estimates of how many range from one million to fewer than 100.

The operating theory behind Seti is that if advanced alien civilisations exist, they may be trying to communicate with other worlds by beaming radio signals into space — and radiotelescopes on earth could pick up such signals.

U.S. scientists pioneered Seti starting in 1960 with physicist Frank Drake's "Ozma" project, named for a "Wizard of Oz"

character and using a radiotelescope in West Virginia.

Now the Soviet Union, France, West Germany, The Netherlands, Japan, and Canada are funding Seti radiotelescope projects.

No alien signals have yet been detected, scientists say.

But NASA, with an annual Seti budget of some \$2 million, is developing the technology for vast expansion in the number of frequencies that could be scanned for messages — a jump from thousands of frequencies to many millions.

NASA plans to scan the entire sky and conduct closer probes of 800 stars which are similar to the sun, beginning in the 1990s.

"In one minute with the new technology we will accomplish more than has been carried out in the past 25 years with all previous programmes," NASA scientist Peter Backus said.

He told Reuters NASA's search would be "tens of billions" of times more thorough than today's most advanced Seti probes.

Earthlings have sent out relatively few messages to possible aliens, although scientists say advanced civilisations could tell earth was inhabited from military radar and television rays leaking into space.

Scientists beamed an electronic greeting into space using a radiotelescope in Puerto Rico in 1974.

NASA's unmanned Pioneer 10 spacecraft carried a plaque with drawings of a nude man and woman and a space map showing earth's location, and Voyager 1 carried a disc with rock music including a Chuck Berry song, a message of friendship from then-U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, and samples of 60 languages.

Some scientists say receipt of

an alien message would be the most important event in human history and could result in mankind learning vast amounts from a more advanced culture.

But University of Virginia physicist Robert Rood sounded a note of warning in his book, "Are we alone?"

"The civilisation that blurs out its existence on interstellar beacons at the first opportunity may be like some early hominoid descending from the trees and calling, 'here, kitty' to a sabre-toothed tiger," Rood wrote.

Some scientists, including Trefil, are sceptical about the possibility of intelligent alien civilisations.

"Where are they?" he asked. "If a single civilisation could colonise the galaxy in millions of years, and if billions of years have elapsed since the first such civilisation was supposed to arise, how can we explain the total lack

of evidence for (extraterrestrials) on earth?"

One theory is that the alien civilisations chose to put our solar system off limits as a kind of galactic zoo or nature reserve.

But Trefil discounts this: "What is the probability... that of all the billions of individuals in each of the millions of galactic races, there is not a single poacher?"

Some say it is possible an alien civilisation is only now expanding into the galaxy and had not reached earth. But Trefil says that would be remarkable given that the history of man was "a blink of the eye on any galactic time scale."

But Trefil supports Seti research, which could lead scientists to conclude that man is alone in the universe after all. He said such a conclusion would be highly significant. It would mean that "we are special."

Earthquake in eastern U.S. probable, energy problems foreseen

By Randolph E. Schmid
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — There is a nearly 100 per cent chance of a serious earthquake striking the eastern United States during the next quarter-century, warns an engineer studying hazards to the nation's energy systems.

And if this tremor occurs, widespread destruction could result, including severe damage to the region's energy supply, says Dr. James E. Beavers, an engineer with Martin Marietta Energy Systems.

"The probability of a destructive earthquake occurring somewhere in the eastern U.S. before the year 2000 can be considered better than 75 to 95 per cent, and before the year 2010 nearly 100 per cent," Beavers said.

It's "an almost sure thing... We just don't know where or when," he said in an interview. Beavers' warning is detailed in a new study of the earthquake hazard to energy systems, published by the American Association of Engineering Societies.

While the report estimated the likelihood of a major quake, it did not detail the damage potential beyond that to energy systems.

However, a serious earthquake obviously would result in severe destruction and many deaths, Beavers said.

Particularly vulnerable, he noted, are schools. Built largely with unreinforced brick and masonry, many deaths and injuries could result if a quake struck in the eastern states during daytime school hours, he said.

As for the energy systems, which were the focus of his study, Beavers noted that many gas and oil pipelines run close to earthquake hazard areas and could be damaged by ground shaking. Railroad and river port facilities also are vulnerable, and fragile electrical systems could suffer serious damage, he noted.

While earthquakes were relatively common in the eastern states in the 17th, 18th and 19th

centuries, few have occurred in this century, Beavers said. This absence raises fears that tension is building on rocks deep underground, waiting to be released suddenly in a damaging tremor, he said.

Three of the most powerful earthquakes ever observed in the United States occurred in the midwestern state of Missouri, near the Mississippi River in 1811-1812, Beavers said.

Damage was slight then because of the region's sparse population, but the same quakes today would cause havoc in several major cities and transportation routes.

Those quakes have been estimated at between 8.4 and 8.8 on the Richter scale, which measures the energy released in a quake through ground motion. By comparison, the famous San Francisco quake of 1906 has been estimated at 8.3.

Tremors of 6.0 or more can cause serious damage in populated areas, and it is quakes of that magnitude on which Beavers focused.

In the Richter scale, each increase of one whole number indicates 10 times more ground motion and about 30 times more energy released in the quake. Thus, a quake measured at 8.0 involved 100 times more shaking and 900 times more energy than one of 6.0.

Beavers said other potential hazard areas in the east include Charleston, South Carolina, which suffered a destructive quake in 1886, as well as Boston, the Virginia-West Virginia border, along the St. Lawrence Valley in upstate New York and in parts of other midwestern and western states.

The problem in the east is potentially even greater than in California, where quakes are more frequent and get more attention. There, many buildings are designed for the stresses of quakes, while in the eastern states few are, he said.

French team may have found unknown pharaonic tomb

By Mimi Mami
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt — French experts working with technology they used on the Giza plateau near Cairo may have found an uncharted ancient tomb in southern Egypt's Valley of the Queens, archaeological authorities report.

A statement signed by Ahmed Kady, president of the Egyptian antiquities organisation, said a microgravimeter used by the French had found "an anomaly of density" in the earth "comparable with that created by known tombs."

The microgravimeter, a metal box the size and shape of an automobile battery, measures variations in underground densities by recording minute changes in the gravitational pull on a suspended weight.

Jacques Montheuon, technical adviser of the French team, said in a telephone interview from Paris that results of the Valley of the Queens exercise, which began in January, are "already remarkable."

But he added: "We need more detailed topographic work in order to pinpoint the abnormalities by archaeological means."

The Valley of the Queens, across the Nile River from Luxor, 720 kilometres south of Cairo, contains remains of almost 80 known tombs of Queens, princes and princesses of the 18th through 20th dynasties of ancient Egypt. The period is roughly 3,600 to 3,050 years ago.

Financed by the state-owned electric company Electricite De France (EDF), the project was an offshoot of the French team's

microgravimeter study of the Great Pyramid of Cheops and other monuments on the Giza plateau near Cairo. Cheops and Egypt's other two most famous pyramids, Chephren and Mycerinus, are on the plateau.

The initial study, sponsored by EDF and the French foreign ministry, lasted almost a year and found indications of previously unknown chambers inside the pyramid and in the Sphinx, at the foot of the plateau.

A team from Tokyo's Waseda University subsequently has found indications of additional chambers at Giza.

Kady's statement, issued Monday in Paris and Cairo, was also signed by EDF research director Marc Albouy. It said computer analysis is under way on more than 600 microgravi-

meter readings from the plateau.

The statement described the find in the Valley of the Queens as an "unknown cavity" and agreed with Montheuon that further analysis is necessary.

"Topographic analysis of the known tombs and local geological accidents must... be deepened before allowing archaeologists to determine if the detected anomaly can really correspond to a new tomb," the statement said.

Egyptologists in Cairo believe undiscovered tombs may remain in the Valley of the Queens area of the vast necropolis that includes the Valley of the Kings on the other side of the Theban hills.

They point out that grave robbers focused a great deal of attention and work on enormous treasures buried with the pharaohs in the Valley of the Kings.

The limestone at the Valley of the Queen's end of the pockmarked hills opposite Thebes, an ancient capital of Egypt near modern Luxor, was not as hard as that in the Valley of the Kings. Walls usually were painted instead of carved, some tombs were left unfinished, and others have the appearance of caves.

Queens of pharaonic Egypt had their own powers. Many were sisters of ruling pharaohs as well as their wives, commanding vast authority and respect because of their royal birth.

Inscriptions usually depict them as smaller than the pharaoh, however, and their tombs were not built on the same scale as those of their husbands. Normally, a chief wife had more power than wives married for political or personal reasons.

Mamluk Jerusalem

THE World of Islam Festival Trust has announced the publication of *Mamluk Jerusalem*: an architectural study by the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem.

From the middle of the thirteenth century to 1517 A.D. Jerusalem was ruled by the Mamluk sultans, whose domains stretched over most of the Levant and Egypt. Today, their architecture still characterises the Holy City, surrounding the exceptional presence of the earlier buildings of the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa Mosque, which are set apart within Al Haram Al Sharif.

This book records for the first time the total magnificence of design and the skill of the craftsmen of that period. After fourteen centuries of Islamic history, the studied elegance of these buildings still represents to many people throughout the world the continuing presence of Islam in this, the Holy City of the Prophet's Night Journey (Al Mi'raj) and the First Qibla.

This meticulous work, in which the architectural drawings have been prepared to precise standards, was begun by the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem in 1968 and completed in 1984. The work was directed for the most part by Dr. Michael Burgoyne who has also researched and written the book. He was assisted in the field work by an extensive team of architects and scholars recruited by the School, who contributed their time and expertise during this period of sixteen years.

This edition represents a corpus of outstanding scholarship which will become the standard reference on the subject for all time, in a format and style commensurate with the special position which the city of Jerusalem holds in the three great monotheistic traditions — Publishers Press Release.

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McEnroe overcomes Lendl

No. 1 arrives hours before from other tourney

INGLEWOOD, California (AP) — John McEnroe overcame a slow start to defeat Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia 4-6, 6-1, 6-4 in a championship challenge series tennis match at the Forum.

McEnroe, who got stronger as the match went on, broke Lendl to take a 4-3 lead in the final set when Lendl hit a forehand wide. He then held serve in the eighth and 10th games, aching Lendl for the final two points.

Lendl's only win in the second set came in the fourth game, but McEnroe said he thought he took command of the match by breaking Lendl two games earlier. "When I broke him in the second game of the (second) set, from that point on I felt I really had control of the match," McEnroe said.

Lendl broke McEnroe in the third game of the opening set with a backhand, cross-court service return. Both players held serve the rest of the set.

Lendl arrived hours before the match from Key Biscayne, Florida, where he competed over the weekend in the International Players Championship.

The match, which lasted 1 hour, 38 minutes, was the third in a series of seven challenge matches at the Forum. The overall



John McEnroe ... getting back to old form

winner will earn \$100,000. Lendl won the first match in November against Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia, and McEnroe beat Stefan Edberg of Sweden in the second match in January.

UEFA decides to leave ban on English clubs

BERNE (R) — The European Football Union (UEFA) rejected an English request to lift an indefinite ban on English clubs from European competitions imposed in the aftermath of rioting at the 1985 European Cup final.

In a statement, UEFA's executive committee said: "It was necessary to wait another year and see how the situation would develop."

"The English clubs will thus not be able to participate in the 1987-88 UEFA season."

England may play in Belgium EC tourney.

Meanwhile in Brussels, English players may appear in a soccer tournament in Belgium next year for the first time since their clubs were banned indefinitely from European competition after the 1985 Heysel Stadium tragedy.

The organisers of a new indoor championship featuring the league champions of the 12 European Community (EC) member states, including one from Bri-

tain, said English players could be invited to take part.

The tournament is the brainchild of wealthy Italian businessman Gerardo Fiorilli, who told Reuters: "I wanted to promote Europe in another way than with dairy prices or farm prices."

The Belgian Soccer Union is prepared to give permission in the project, Belgian soccer chief Albert Roosen said.

Fiorilli said he intended to invite an all-British team comprising players from the four British football associations, but first must complete negotiations with all the national governing bodies.

The Belgian government extended UEFA's ban on English clubs to all British teams, although they granted permission earlier this year for Scotland to play a European championship qualifying game in Belgium on April 1.

Roosen, secretary-general of the Belgian Soccer Union, said he had no objections to helping stage the event as long as the union was not held financially liable.

Spectators asked to keep clear in Portuguese Rally

ESTORIL, Portugal (R) — Organisers of the Portuguese Motor Rally starting today have appealed to spectators to keep clear of the routes after two people were killed in an accident during last year's event.

The third rally of 13 in the World Championship opens with a special stage of four laps at the Estoril Autodrome which has replaced the traditional Sintra Mountain section where the two spectators were killed when a car plunged into a crowd after skidding on a sharp bend.

The major works teams pulled out in protest against what they described as poor crowd control measures, and this year's organisers decided to drop the Sintra leg as well as appealing to spectators to keep well clear of the routes.

Finland's Markku Alen, four times winner of the Portuguese Rally, will pit his Lancia against the Mazda of Sweden's Timo Salonen, who won last month's Swedish Rally and was victorious here two years ago.

"The rocky stages mean you must drive carefully. It is not a speed rally, you must conserve the car," said Alen.

All the drivers will find the near summer conditions here a sharp contrast to the ice and snow they faced in the first two rallies of the year, in Monte Carlo and Sweden.

Other leading contenders for the 2,087 kilometre rally are Alen's Lancia team-mates, Massimo Biasion of Italy, who won the Monte Carlo event, and world champion Juha Kankkunen.

Dutch to use passes to curb violence

THE HAGUE (R) — All Dutch professional soccer clubs will introduce membership cards from next season to control entry to games where the risk of crowd trouble is high, the Dutch football association (KNVB) said Tuesday.

The chairman of the Netherlands' 18 First Division teams agreed on the move in response to a recent upsurge in crowd trouble, particularly rioting at a match between Den Haag and Ajax Amsterdam in the Hague 10 days ago.

"We've decided to bring in these passes. Now we have to work out how to do it and how to finance it," KNVB spokesman Geert Stolk told Reuters. He said about one million people attend Dutch soccer matches each season.

He said the 100 per cent membership scheme would enable clubs to keep a tight control on all fans, although the cards would be used only for "high-risk" games involving teams whose supporters are most notorious.

It is not yet clear how the list of "bad boys" will be drawn up, but Ajax, Den Haag and Feyenoord Rotterdam fans are widely considered to have the worst reputation.

The KNVB must formally approve the pass plan at a general meeting in May.

But Theo Albers, head of FC Utrecht, said his and other clubs with relatively well-behaved supporters would feel discriminated against if their fans were barred.

However, it has yet to be decided whether all visiting fans will be banned from "high-risk"

venues or admitted if they have identity cards.

English First Division Luton introduced a membership card system this season and have been severely criticised because away supporters are excluded.

The Dutch association's safety officer Roh De Bakker, who has visited Luton and studied the club's experience, is already working on the plan and is likely to conduct a limited experiment this season with some clubs.

The KNVB says it has been promised some government

money to help fund the scheme.

Last month former international Johan Cruyff, now Ajax's trainer, launched a 380,000-guilder (\$190,000) anti-violence campaign urging would-be trouble makers to "kick a ball, not your club."

Three days later he found himself trying to calm fans who rioted in The Hague in some of the worst football violence the Netherlands has seen.

Forty people were injured in the fighting and, during police baton charges. The game was abandoned at halftime.

Overweight Foreman wins sluggish comeback bout

SACRAMENTO, California (R) — Former heavyweight champion George Foreman, looking overweight and slow, returned to the ring after nearly 10 years to stop journeyman Steve Zouski with 13 seconds left in the fourth round.

The 39-year-old Foreman, weighing 267 pounds (121 kilograms), was unable to put the 32-year-old American Zouski on the canvas, but hit him repeatedly, forcing American referee Hank Elsespuro to stop the fight.

Zouski, who once went four rounds with current World Boxing Association World Heavyweight champion Mike Tyson, was nothing more than a punching bag for Foreman, who was fighting Monday night for the first time since March 17, 1977.

Foreman had a 55-pound weight advantage (25 kilogramme) over Zouski and used his superior strength to stalk his opponent around the ring.

Foreman had Zouski wobbling in the fourth round, but couldn't come through with a knockout punch.

"I hit the guy with a left hook and gave him time to recover. Can you imagine that?" Foreman said. "After 10 years you do crazy things like that."

Zouski was never able to hurt Foreman at any time in the fight, although he connected with a couple of good punches to the head.

Foreman seemed satisfied with his return, and said afterwards that his goal was still to fight for the heavyweight championship.

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England's F.A. bans plastic pitches from cup

LONDON (R) — Clubs are to be banned from playing on artificial pitches in the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup next season.

The F.A. council backed a recommendation of the cup committee to outlaw plastic pitches. The affected clubs, Luton and Queen's Park Rangers of the First Division, Second Division Oldham and Fourth Division Preston will now have to either play at a neutral venue or switch the tie to the opposition's ground if they are drawn out of the hat first.

Announcing the F.A. decision, secretary Ted Croker said: "The case for and against artificial pitches was argued at great length by the members. I think the issue which swayed most of them was the good name and impartiality of the F.A. Cup, which is probably the famous national club competition in the world."

"There is no doubt the question of home advantage influencing the members considerably."

Preston Chairman Keith Leeming said he was "devastated" by the decision. "It's unbelievable that the council can make a decision such as this when, to my knowledge, we have had only two representatives of the F.A. come and have a look at our artificial surface. We are not going to take this lying down."

Croker admitted it would be "a serious blow" for the clubs concerned but said that there was no right of appeal as far as next season's competition was concerned.

Wilt Chamberlain's 100 points in a game record still stands after twenty-five years

By Bill Baynard
The Associated Press

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania (AP) — Wilt Chamberlain's teammates knew something was right that night. They first noticed it on the two-hour ride from their home base in Philadelphia.

"We played pinocle on the bus and he won every hand," recalled teammate Guy Rodgers. The date was March 2, 1962.

The Philadelphia Warriors professional basketball team had come to Hershey to play the New York Knicks before 4,142 fans at the Hershey sports arena.

The Warriors won 169-147 on the strength of an astonishing performance by their 7-foot-1 (2.16-metre) centre, "Wilt the Stilt."

Chamberlain scored 100 points, the greatest individual effort in pro basketball, a record that has stood for 25 years.

Chamberlain was scoring lots of points that NBA season. He went on to average 50.4, an accomplishment he considers less likely to be equaled than 100 points in a single game.

So it caused little stir among players and fans when Chamberlain scored 41 in the first half, helping the Warriors to a 79-68 halftime lead.

"I was extremely hot in the first half," Chamberlain said. "I thought I would cool down in the second half, but I never did. I didn't start thinking about how many points I had until I was in the 60s in the third quarter and people started chanting."

In the second half, the public-address announcer started calling out Chamberlain's total points after each basket.

"It was a Philly crowd they wanted Wilt to score," Knicks player Richie Guerin said. "When (the announcer) started calling out the points, the crowd went crazy chanting 'we want 100, we want 100.'"

The game was dominated by Chamberlain, who had 79 points after three quarters. With Philadelphia leading 125-150, the outcome was a foregone conclusion.

Italian captain fined for kicking ball boy

MILAN, Italy (R) — Argentine defender Daniel Passarella has been fined five million lire (\$3,500) by Internazionale Milan for kicking a 16-year-old ball boy during a match in Sampdoria on Sunday, officials said.

Former Argentine World Cup-winning captain Passarella kicked out at Maurizio Piana after he was apparently slow to retrieve the ball in the closing minutes of the Italian First Division game, which the Genoa team won 3-1.

"Internazionale has decided to fine the player five million lire," Inter President Ernesto Pellegrini said. "The money will be given as a study scholarship to the boy."

Passarella, who publicly apologized to the boy's father, is likely to face further disciplinary action when the soccer authorities meet later this week.

Belgian Planckaert takes lead in Paris-Nice cycling

ST. ETIENNE, France (AP) — Belgium's Eddy Planckaert held on in a final sprint to capture the second stage of the Paris-Nice cycling race Tuesday.

Planckaert took the section from Chalons-Sur-Saone to St. Etienne in central France, covering the 203 kilometres (127 miles) in five hours, 28 minutes, 38 seconds. He held off the charges of Ireland's Sean Kelly and Britain's Sean Yates.

Kelly is seeking his sixth straight victory in the Paris-Nice event. With the aid of a five-second bonus for his second place, he moved within striking distance of the overall leader, Ireland's Stephen Roche.

Roche finished in the pack, but all were credited with the same time as Planckaert. He held on to the white jersey of the leader.

Wednesday's section is 244 kilometres (153 miles) to Mont Ventoux, which includes a difficult mountain climb.

American NBA roundup

Bucks surge to beat Suns

MILWAUKEE (AP) — The Milwaukee Bucks got strong closing performances from Jack Sikma, John Lucas and Terry Cummings to beat the Phoenix Suns 118-110 in the National Basketball Association.

Sikma had eight points, Lucas seven and Cummings six in the fourth quarter as the Bucks kept the Suns from making a successful rally.

Cummings finished with 28 points after shooting 10-for-11 from the field and scoring 22 points in the first half.

In other NBA games, the Los Angeles Lakers defeated the Los Angeles Clippers 136-114, Atlanta stopped Chicago 108-103 and Indiana beat Utah 107-102.

Paul Pressey scored 19 points and Lucas 18 for the Bucks, who won for the 11th time in their last 14 games. Walter Davis scored 28 points, Alvan Adams had 24 and Larry Nance added 21 points and 14 rebounds for the for the Suns.

In Los Angeles, the Lakers increased their record against teams with losing records to 26-0 as Byron Scott hit 11 of 12 shots and scored 30 points against the Clippers.

The Clippers, losers of five straight, were paced by Mike Woodson with 23 points before he was ejected with two technical fouls in the fourth quarter. Teammate Benoit Benjamin also was assessed a pair of technical fouls and was ejected.

The Lakers posted their 13th victory in 15 games against their crosstown rivals since the Clippers moved to Los Angeles from San Diego at the start of the 1984-85 season.

In Atlanta, the Hawks won their seventh straight game as Kevin Willis scored 30 points and Dominique Wilkins 27 against Chicago.

Willis, Wilkins and Glenn Rivers, who had 22 points and 11 assists, combined for all of the Hawks' points in a 10-2 streak late in the game that gave them the lead for good.

Michael Jordan had 31 points and Charles Oakley finished with 25 points and 19 rebound for Chicago.

At Indianapolis, John Long scored 42 points, including 12 straight in one stretch of the fourth quarter, when the Indiana Pacers outscored Utah 32-17.

Utah was led by Darrell Griffith with 27 points and Karl Malone with 24 points and 17 rebounds.

Soviets capture honours in opening pairs skating

CINCINNATI, Ohio (R) — Ekaterina Gordeeva and Sergei Grinkov of the Soviet Union got off to a good start in defending their World Figure Skating Championship by winning the short programme of the pairs competition.

The tall Grinkov and his diminutive partner, dressed in matching tops with horizontal stripes of yellow, blue, green and red, gave a bouncy, almost whimsical performance in finishing first with 0.4 points.

Their Soviet compatriots, Elena Valova and Oleg Vasiliev, who won the World Cham-

pionship in 1983 and 1985 and finished second last year, were second Monday night with 0.8 points.

Americans Jill Watson and Peter Oppegard, ninth last year and this time on their way to a sixth place overall, were a surprising third. They collected 1.2 points.

The men's singles competition began earlier with Alexander Fadeev finishing first on 0.4 points in his bid to win the title he claimed in 1985.

American Brian Boitano, who won the gold medal last year in Geneva, was second with 1.7 points.

"It was a nightmare," Imhoff said after the game. "He was awfully fast, and I couldn't keep up with him. He must have scored 40 points off me, then I fouled out early in the fourth quarter."

New York's strategy of fouling Chamberlain backfired; he made 28 of 32 free-throw attempts. He was a 51 per cent free-throw shooter for his career.

Chamberlain said the Knicks' attempts to stop him made him more determined to reach 100.

"When it became obvious that they no longer were trying to win and just trying to stop me, I thought that was ridiculous," Chamberlain said in a telephone interview. "That made me want to do it more. My teammates said they were going to get me the ball at any cost."

No one seems to know for sure how Wilt scored his 100th point. Some say it was a dunk; others say a jump shot. Even Chamberlain remembers two versions.

In his autobiography, written in 1973, he said he scored on a dunk. Today, he recalls it came on a "middle-distance jumper."

There is no film of the game to clarify the issue.

When the ball went through the hoop, fans poured onto the floor, some trying and failing to yank the precious ball from Chamberlain's hands.

Chamberlain, who had taken 63 shots from the floor and made 36, was embarrassed by those numbers.

He looked at the stat sheet in the locker room and couldn't believe it. "We had to buy him up and say it was OK to shoot 63 times if you can make 36."

Back in the arena, the scoreboard clock showed 49 seconds left.

In the excitement, they forgot to finish the game.

KLM holds reception

AMMAN (J.T.) — KLM's general manager for Jordan Najeeb Fakhouri and Mrs. Fakhouri held a reception at the King Hussein Club in Amman on Sunday to mark the 27th anniversary of opening an air route between Jordan and Holland.

The reception was attended by Minister of Information and Tourism Mohammad Al Khatib, several members of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, senior government figures and officials from the information service and Arab and foreign diplomatic missions in Jordan, as well as travel and tourism agents operating in Jordan, businessmen, and Royal Jordanian senior officials.

Also attending the reception were Mr. Albert Coenen, deputy area manager of KLM for Asia and Australia, and senior KLM officials.



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Cinema **OPERA** Tel: 675573
WORLD MUST BE CRAZY
Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 677420
PRETTY IN PINK
Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **RAGHADAN** Tel: 622198
MY LUCKY STARS
Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:30, 8:45

Handwritten signature: J. J. ...

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Tuesday.

One sterling	1.5853/63	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3345/50	Canadian dollar
	1.8575/85	West German marks
	2.078/88	Dutch guilders
	1.5647/57	Swiss francs
	38.45/48	Belgian francs
	6.1800/30	French francs
	1319.5/1320.5	Italian lire
	153.70/80	Japanese yen
	6.4769/810	Swedish crowns
	6.9950/7.000	Norwegian crowns
	6.9825/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	405.50/405.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equity prices showed a firmer bias in late trading in the wake of a London evening newspaper opinion poll which showed an increase in the ruling Conservative Party's lead over the Labour Party.

Dealers said trading was relatively thin after initial profit-taking and technical selling ahead of next week's U.K. budget with the thin trading conditions making for the exaggerated moves of many issues.

Monday's 1/2-point cut in U.K. base rates was already discounted but the prospect of a further cut and optimism for a tax cutting budget helped to underpin the market, dealers added. The early nine point fall on Wall Street, however, tended to dampen the early afternoon run up and at 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 was just 4.1 points higher at 1,977.8 after a high of 1,986.4 at 1202 GMT and an early low of 1,965.7.

Many dealers expect shares to hold around current levels in the near term but they anticipate a fairly spectacular rally around the time of next week's budget.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAR. 11, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day to accept delays that are taking place. Attend to whatever problems can be handled at the moment and put off long-range goals for now.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You are anxious to put a special talent across, but this is not the right time to be aggressive.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You do not understand how to straighten out a home affair, so postpone any action on this.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You may get a letter that brings you confusion, so delay in answering it until you understand more.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't do anything careless about finances. Avoid that person who gives unwanted advice.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 22) You feel depressed and want to do something foolish to try to solve a personal matter, but keep cool and calm.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) A personal worry should not stop you from handling outside matters. Try not to hurt the feelings of your mate.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't rely on a usually generous person who is not in a position to help you today. Exercise patience now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You had better go along with the expectations of a bigwig if you want to gain the benefits you expect.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Complete your difficult duties today. Get your fine ideas into motion and make progress now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have an annoying responsibility to handle, but get to it and stop making up excuses.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You want to get out of following a conservative higher-up, but this could bring trouble.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Although the situation around your home is hardly as you want it to be, don't make any changes.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will be very magnetic, but will expect others to go to extremes to please him, or her, so teach this one to become more fair and cooperative. When your progeny does something that is exceptionally fine, don't be stingy with much-deserved praise.

Ferry claims may go over £30 million

LONDON (R) — British insurers could face claims of more than £30 million (\$47.4 million) over the sinking of a car ferry off Belgium last week, the Lloyd's of London insurance market said Monday.

Spokesman David Larner said it might be weeks before the extent of compensation claims for passengers, crew and cargo was known, as well as how much of the ship could be salvaged.

The vessel, the Herald of Free Enterprise owned by Townsend Thoresen, was carrying 543 people when it keeled over on its side within sight of Zeebrugge harbour last Friday.

Fifty-three bodies have been recovered and 81 people are still missing.

British Transport Secretary John Moore told parliament Monday the ship keeled over after water rushing in through the bow loading doors. An inquiry had been ordered, he said.

Lloyd's said the vessel's hull and equipment were worth £25 million (\$39.5 million).

Mr. Larner said claims from passengers could be expected to total at least £5 million (\$7.9 million), based on the number of deaths and the level of liability set out in a 1974 convention used by insurers.

Mr. Larner said estimates of compensation claims were only guess work at this stage but if the ship could not be salvaged, claims would total at least £30 million (\$47.4 million).

Disaster hurts anti-tunnel campaign

Meanwhile, the Zeebrugge ferry disaster has dealt a blow to a campaign by ferry operators against the proposed channel tunnel, financial analysts said.

The Flexlink anti-tunnel group backed by Townsend Thoresen and the Sealink Ferry Company has argued the twin rail tunnel between Britain and France could be devastated by fire or derailment.

Britain's firemen's union has supported their arguments.

"It (the ferry disaster) will disable the lobby," Mr. David Treacy, a construction analyst with brokers Savory Mills, told Reuters. "The ferries can no longer shout the odds on safety reasons."

Mr. Charles Williams of stockbrokers James Capel said he thought the House of Lords, soon due to start debating legislation allowing the £4.7 billion (\$7.5 billion) privately funded project to proceed, would be more sceptical about opposition to the tunnel on safety grounds.

"Whilst this tragedy doesn't make the tunnel any safer, it reminds people there are safety problems in all modes of transport. The political ground has shifted," he said.

However, Mr. Williams added that he did not believe the disaster would affect attempts by the Anglo-French Eurotunnel consortium to raise another £750 million (\$1.2 billion) in a share offer this July.

Taiwan dollar appreciates to highest level since '58

TAIPEI (AP) — The Taiwan dollar rose Tuesday to its highest level against the U.S. dollar since 1958 as the American currency came under heavy selling pressure.

The U.S. dollar was quoted at 34.80 Taiwan dollars Tuesday morning, down from 34.86 on Monday.

Traders who spoke on condition of anonymity said the selling spree was triggered by reports from Washington that U.S. trade officials had pressured Taiwan to let its currency rise to help reduce its trade surplus.

Officials of the government-run central bank declined comment on the report. But traders said the bank had reduced its efforts to prevent the local currency from appreciating.

Traders said the central bank bought only \$70 million on the market Monday, compared to

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank reports \$385 million profit

HONG KONG (R) — Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the British colony's biggest bank, announced Tuesday that its profits surged to more than three billion dollars (\$385 million) last year, aided by a strong local economy.

It also said it planned to raise 3.3 billion dollars (\$423 million) by offering its shareholders the right to buy more stock.

Profits at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, one of the two issuers of the colony's currency, were up more than 12 per cent from 1985 as strong exports spurred loan demands by local manufacturers.

The bank was hit hard by bad

daily purchases of more than \$100 million during the last selling spree in January.

The Taiwan dollar has climbed 12.5 per cent against the American currency since January 1986, when the rate was 39.80.

A higher Taiwan dollar makes local goods more expensive and less competitive overseas.

Taiwan, however, has continued to register a growing surplus in its trade with the United States.

Its surplus totalled \$2.34 billion in the first two months this year, up 25 per cent from the same period in 1986.

Last year, Taiwan had a record surplus of \$13.57 billion in trade with the United States.

The government in 1959 fixed the exchange rate at 36 Taiwan dollars to one U.S. dollar, and it later climbed to about 40 to 1.

loans to the slumping shipping industry in 1985 but there were no further losses last year.

However, weak commodity prices hurt its operations in South East Asia while a depressed oil market hit business in the Mideast.

"We made provisions (for losses) in Singapore for the second year running," said bank chairman, Mr. William Purves.

"There are still problems in Malaysia."

Under the rights offer, shareholders would gain the right to buy one share at seven dollars each for every eight shares they hold now.

30m Indians seek employment

NEW DELHI (R) — Thirty million Indians are registered as seeking work, of whom 2.6 million are educated to graduate or postgraduate level, the labour ministry said Tuesday.

A written reply in the lower house of parliament gave the number of job-seekers on Dec. 31, 1986, as 30.13 million, compared with 26.27 million a year before.

According to government figures, the total Indian labour force was 269.8 million in 1985, giving an unemployment rate for that year of 9.7 per cent.

Officially projected growth

rates would produce a 1986 labour force of 277 million, meaning an increase in the unemployment rate to 10.9 per cent last year.

The labour ministry said 725,000 were seeking work in Bombay, 681,000 in Delhi, 498,000 in Calcutta and 434,000 in Madras.

The written reply said not all those registered were necessarily unemployed. As there is no social security for most unemployed private-sector workers, many live by casual or mental work while looking for secure jobs.

Chrysler agrees to purchase Renault's American Motors

DETROIT (AP) — Chrysler Corp. and France's Renault have signed a letter of intent under which the No. 3 automaker would buy all American Motors Corp. (AMC), the fifth-largest U.S. automaker, in a deal valued at \$757 million, the companies said Monday.

AMC President Joseph Cappy, in a terse statement, said AMC received a letter Monday detailing the purchase proposal. "We are studying the proposal," he said, adding that AMC would have no further comment until later.

Chrysler reported \$22.59 billion in sales in 1986, and AMC's sales totalled \$3.46 billion. Together, the companies' sales last year would have totalled \$26.05 billion, far short of second-ranked Ford Motor Co.'s \$62.72 billion.

Under the \$757 million deal, Chrysler would trade \$522 million in Chrysler stock for AMC's outstanding shares, five Renault \$200 million, 10-year, eight per cent note for its AMC interest and pay Renault \$35 million in cash, said Chrysler Vice President James Tolly.

Financial conditions worsen for 15 heavily indebted states

WASHINGTON (AP) — Financial conditions of 15 heavily indebted countries targeted for special help by the United States worsened last year and are not expected to improve in 1987, according to an association of the world's leading banks.

In October 1985, when Treasury Secretary James Baker proposed the aid, the 15 nations owed \$437.4 billion. At the end of 1986, the figure had climbed to \$462 billion, the Institute of International Finance said in a report released Monday.

The figures were contained in a summary of a paper on the future of international lending, given to member banks in confidence Jan. 27.

"The external performance of countries included in the Baker plan deteriorated sharply in 1986 and not expected to improve this

year," the summary said.

It added that the countries continue to rely heavily on international reserves, and on "concerted lending." Concerted lending consists of loans made by commercial banks under pressure from their governments and the International Monetary Fund, as distinct from the "voluntary lending" that the banks do on their own judgment.

The countries are: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Ivory Coast, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, Uruguay, Venezuela and

Yugoslavia. The report said the international accounts of the 15 were near balance in 1985, but had a \$13 billion deficit in 1986. Their reserves increased by \$2 billion in 1985 and fell by \$5 billion in 1986, it said.

Their increased need of financing was blamed largely on a drop in the prices of their exports, such as oil, minerals and other goods.

Mr. Baker proposed new loans of \$29 billion for the 15 countries over three years in expectation of new fiscal policies in the borrowing countries. He and international financial leaders have complained recently that the banks are slow in making new loans.

The World Bank now estimates total Third World debt at well over \$1 trillion, in part because many countries have not kept up with interest payments.

West German economy weakens

BONN (R) — Figures Tuesday confirmed that the powerful West German economy stagnated towards the end of 1986, and the government said expansion in the early part of this year may also turn out to be relatively weak.

The Federal Statistics Office said gross national product (GNP) in the German economy, which the United States and others want to act as a "locomotive" of world expansion, grew 2.4 per cent in 1986 after 2.5 per cent in 1985.

The office earlier had provisionally put 1986 GNP growth at 2.5 per cent.

In the final three months of last year, GNP was provisionally unchanged against the July-September quarter, up 2.4 per cent against the same period in 1985.

The economics ministry meanwhile said that GNP figures for the first quarter of this year may turn out relatively weak, partly because of severe winter weather and weaker exports.

The appreciation of the Deutschmark against a sagging dollar has pinched West German exporters by making their goods relatively more expensive in world markets.

According to the statistics office, exports of goods and services provisionally fell 0.9 per cent in real terms in the final three months of 1986, compared with the same period in 1985.

The United States and several West European nations want measures this year to fire up the faltering German economy and increase domestic demand for goods.

U.S. economic expansion is sluggish. Meanwhile, as the United States acts to correct its huge trade deficit, which hit almost \$170 billion last year, economists say that its capacity to help the global economy to grow by absorbing more goods is likely to diminish.

The hope is that countries such as West Germany and Japan, which have been running large surpluses, will make up for that.

At the Feb. 22 Paris meeting of finance ministers of the United States, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain and Canada, the West Germans and Japanese pledged action to stimulate their economies.

Commenting on the GNP figures released, the economics ministry said the fourth quarter of 1986 was, in fact, marked by higher domestic demand and also by clearly lower exports.

The ministry said higher domestic demand was satisfied increasingly by imports in the fourth quarter.

Higher domestic demand in West Germany helped the economies of Bonn's trading partners, it said. Also, West Germany's own trade surplus fell sharply in real terms because of currency movements.

"This picture will foreseeably not change much in the short-term. Foreign trade developments will likely continue to have a dampening economic influence for the time being," the ministry said.

"Therefore, and not least because of the influence of unfavourable weather, GNP data for the first quarter of 1987 may prove to be relatively weak," it added.

The ministry said the GNP figures for the fourth quarter confirmed the basic healthy state of West Germany's economy and the soundness of its economic policies.

Sri Lanka expects lower growth

COLOMBO (R) — Sri Lanka expected lower economic growth this year through a combination of higher defence spending, drought and depressed export prices, Finance and Planning Minister Romie De Mel said.

This year's 10 billion rupees (\$375 million) defence budget had already risen by two billion rupees (\$75 million), Mr. De Mel told Reuters in an interview. It might rise even more by the end of the year.

Defence spending last year was almost 11 billion rupees (\$407 million).

He estimated gross domestic product would increase by about three per cent this year. Officials estimated that gross domestic product last year rose between 3.5 and 4.0 per cent, compared to

a five per cent increase in 1985.

The Sri Lankan government is battling a three-year-old Tamil separatist war which officials said had pushed defence spending to nearly 17 per cent of the national budget this year.

The conflict had reduced tourism by 30 per cent and cut internal trade by 30 per cent, they said.

To pay for the defence rise, Mr. De Mel said, the government planned to cut the 33 billion rupees (\$1.2 billion) capital expenditure budget by 12 per cent.

Sri Lanka's current drought, described by the meteorology department the worst since 1951, would also have an impact on the economy, Mr. De Mel said, with a decline in rice, tea, coconut and rubber output.

The reduction in capital projects also meant a drop in foreign aid, he said. About \$550 million in aid was expected this year, compared to \$700 million in 1986.

Sri Lanka had applied to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for up to 6.5 billion rupees (\$241 million) in loans this year to shore up balance of payments difficulties, Mr. De Mel said.

The IMF had expressed doubts over Sri Lanka's ability to limit its budget deficit because of defence spending increases.

Despite budget problems and a debt service ratio of almost 90 per cent, Mr. De Mel said Sri Lanka would still be able to meet its foreign debt payments and would not have to resort to rescheduling.

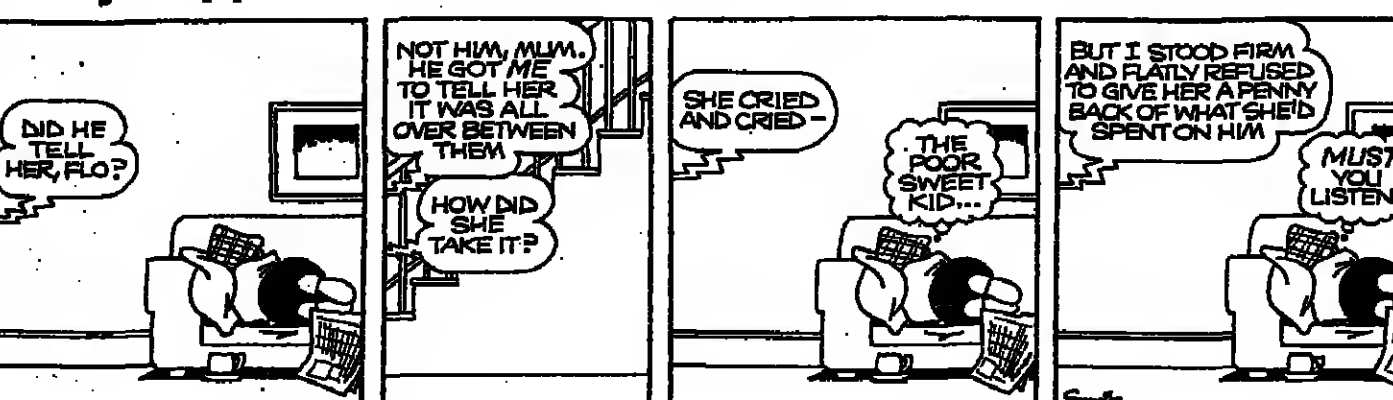
Peanuts



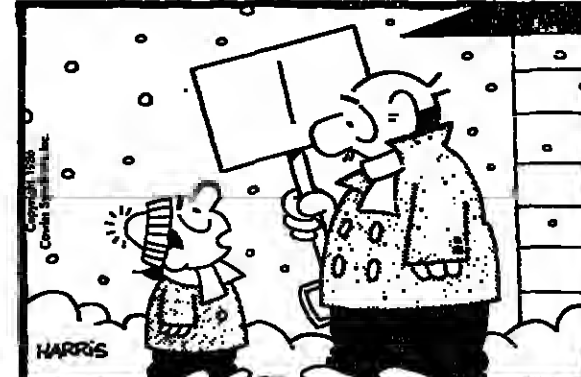
Mutt n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



"Santa goes to every country in the world. I bet he's flying a covert spy mission for the C.I.A."

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

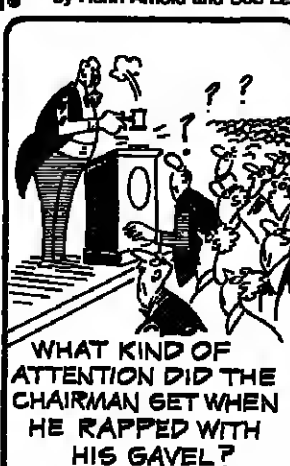
Unscramble these four Jumbles one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PAPYL

CYRUR

YUPTED

ANNKIP



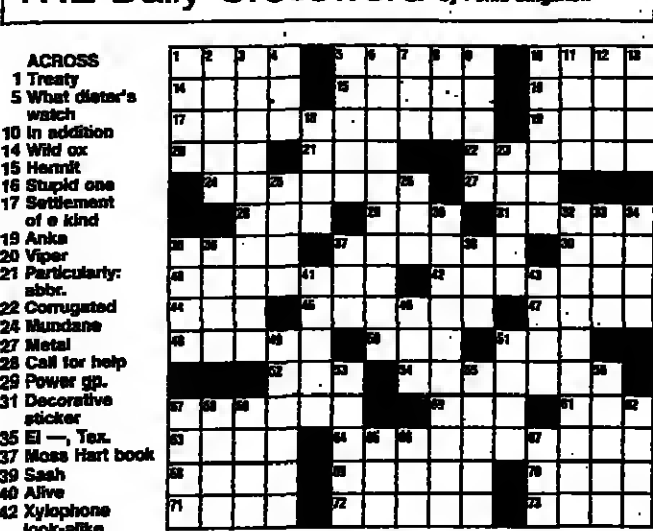
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: _____

Yesterday's Jumble: BRUG. ABOUT RARELY FIDDLE

Answer: What a man given to horsecloughs should be — "BRILED"

THE Daily Crossword by Penni Singleton



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

- 1 Smug
- 2 Cuckoo
- 3 "Misadventure"
- 4 Upright
- 5 Wink
- 6 Fertilizer
- 7 Minestrone
- 8 Just
- 9 Socks
- 10 Document
- 11 Addition
- 12 Space
- 13 So soon
- 14 Understood
- 15 Conspicuous
- 16 Rhyme scheme
- 17 Anasias
- 18 Tempo
- 19 Fortnight
- 20 Ploughlands
- 21 Remain
- 22 Down
- 23 Spotted rodent
- 24 Win by
- 25 Mercy
- 26 Split
- 27 Melted snow
- 28 Once did
- 29 Chevalier's gift of song
- 30 Rot
- 31 Glare
- 32 Puccini opera
- 33 Way
- 34 Hideous one
- 35 Equal
- 36 Gaudious
- 37 Wave, Sp.
- 38 Village on the Volga
- 39 Sorbian city

Cruz resignation called a blow to long term U.S. contra aid

WASHINGTON (R) — Moderate Nicaraguan rebel leader Arturo Cruz's decision to resign is a potentially crippling blow to both rebel cooperation and long-term U.S. military aid, according to congressmen and rebel officials.

Cruz announced in Costa Rica that he would resign from the three-member directorate of the United Nicaraguan Opposition (UNO), the rebel umbrella group.

He said his effort to bring more Nicaraguan opposition groups into the rebel movement and to place its forces under civilian control "has been exhausted."

Cruz — a former banker and one-time ambassador to Washington for Nicaragua's Sandinista government — has been regarded as a moderate leader who commands the broadest support in the U.S. Congress.

In Washington, opposition Democrats said his resignation would bolster their drive to cut off U.S. military aid to the rebels, although they said it would not stop the release of \$40 million in the next few months.

Senator Christopher Dodd, a leading opponent of U.S. aid to the so-called contra rebels, said Cruz's resignation would increase opposition from congressmen whose support depends on democratic reform of the rebel movement.

"Arturo Cruz has just dis-

covered what many of us discovered a long time ago — that the contra movement's not a democratic movement," Sen. Dodd, a Connecticut Democrat, said.

The resignation came only two days before a vote in the Democratic-controlled House of Representatives for a 180-day moratorium on \$40 million in U.S. military and other aid, part of a \$100 million contra aid package that Congress last autumn approved for this year.

Even if the moratorium were passed by both the House and Senate, its supporters admit they would not have enough votes — two-thirds — to override a presidential veto.

But Sen. Dodd and other Democrats said Cruz's resignation would increase the chances of defeating Mr. Reagan's re-

quest for \$105 million in aid for the rebels next year.

In Miami, rebel officials said Cruz's departure would deepen the crisis in their ranks and said they also feared it might jeopardize future aid to the U.S.-backed movement.

"With Cruz gone, some people in Washington will accuse us once again of being undemocratic," a senior rebel official said.

Some senior rebel officials said Cruz's resignation appeared to have been triggered by fierce opposition from conservatives to proposed reforms at a meeting of UNO's general assembly over the weekend in San Jose, Costa Rica.

In a major setback for the Nicaraguan rebel movement, Costa Rica has announced that the rebels will no longer be allowed to use this country as a public meeting-place.

3 killed in Bangladesh university bomb blast

DHAKA (R) — Two more students died Tuesday of injuries from a bomb blast which killed a student leader and provoked hundreds of bomb explosions across Bangladesh Tuesday.

The blast at Dhaka University Monday night killed the student leader instantly and wounded eight others.

Hospital doctors told Reuters two of the eight died Tuesday in the operating theatre and the other six were critically ill.

Outraged by Monday's killing, students earlier Tuesday exploded hundreds of bombs as a protest strike over bus fares turned into a campaign against President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

Police said no one was hurt by the home-made explosives planted by students but three vehicles were damaged in Chittagong and a government office was set on fire in Rajshahi.

Banks, shops and non-government offices were closed and all vehicles in the capital, Dhaka, were off the streets during the eight-hour stoppage. Trains

moved irregularly but airport officials said planes left on schedule on domestic routes.

The strike called by opposition students and backed by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) to protest against higher transport fares turned into an anti-government violence against student leader Mahbubul Haq Bhabu was killed and eight others hurt in an explosion at Dhaka University.

Police said Bhabu, general secretary of the BNP student wing, was killed by a bomb which he and his colleagues were making to use in the strike.

BNP leader Begum Khaleda Zia described Bhabu's death as "a new conspiracy by the government to annihilate its political opponents."

"This will give us strength to turn our grief into a determination to oust this illegal government," she told a party rally, while hailing the strike a success.

Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Matin, who is also home minister, told parliament Monday night he would soon place a full report before the house on the blast.

Pravda cites failure of Shultz visit to China

MOSCOW (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz failed to settle differences between Washington and Peking during a visit to China this month, the Communist Party daily Pravda said Tuesday.

It said Mr. Shultz had sought to woo Peking by advertising capitalism during the five-day visit but China had stressed its independence and was striving to maintain a balanced relationship with the United States and the Soviet Union.

Differences had been expressed over U.S. restrictions on imports from China, certain areas of foreign policy and President

Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) for a partly space-based missile defence system.

"He (Shultz) noted that in their approach to international problems they had some common and similar views but also differences of opinion," Pravda said.

"China ... is striving for a balanced and independent foreign policy," it added.

The newspaper said the U.S. delegation had assessed relations with the Soviet Union "more correctly than in the past" and declared without reservation Mr. Reagan's desire for improved relations with Moscow.

Policeman, shopkeeper killed in Punjab attacks

NEW DELHI (R) — Two assailants, believed to have been Sikh extremists, shot dead a Sikh police officer near the Punjab town of Jullundur Tuesday, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported.

PTI said that subinspector Mohinder Singh was killed in a village near Jullundur as he was going to work.

PTI also reported that a Sikh shopkeeper identified as Valsa Singh was shot dead by three men

Monday night in Faridkot district. Another man was injured in a separate incident.

Police said the attacks were part of a violent campaign conducted by extremists for an independent Sikh homeland. About 150 people have been killed this year.

Armed men killed an imprisoned supporter of India's ruling party and freed seven Communist supporters from a jail in Bihar state, PTI reported Monday.

'Blocking aid would reduce U.S. leverage on Pakistan'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department has said that threatening to cut off U.S. assistance would spur Pakistani development of atomic weapons and undermine resistance to Soviet intimidation in the region.

Blocking aid would reduce U.S. leverage on the Pakistani government and "create incentives for Pakistan to ignore our concerns and push forward in the direction of nuclear weapons acquisition," State Department spokesman Charles E. Redman Monday said.

Mr. Redman's comments appeared designed to allay Pakistani fears of aid cutoff sparked by a U.S. diplomat's recent speech condemning the country's nuclear programme.

U.S. Ambassador Deane Hinton said in a speech on Feb. 16 that Pakistan's nuclear development plans could endanger \$4.02 billion in U.S. military and economic aid planned for the next six years.

The administration of President Ronald Reagan repeatedly has criticised the Pakistani pro-

gramme on grounds it could lead to the development of atomic weapons, but certified to Congress last year that such arms had not been assembled yet.

Mr. Redman reiterated the U.S. view that the "question of non-proliferation has been a central national security concern," and a "key issue for our relationship with Pakistan."

But he added, "shifting to a policy of threats and public ultimata would in our view decrease, not increase, the likelihood that we would achieve our non-proliferation goals."

"Undermining the credibility of the security relationship with the U.S. would itself create incentives for Pakistan to ignore our concerns and push forward in the direction of nuclear weapons acquisition," Mr. Redman said.

In addition, he said, "our assistance for Pakistan, is of course, important to sustaining Pakistan's ability to resist Soviet intimidation and, therefore, to our support for the Afghan resistance."

The document urges government authorities and legislators to be watchful of new biomedical techniques because "an uncontrolled application of such techniques could lead to unforeseeable and damaging consequences for civil society."

It specifically calls on governments to outlaw sperm and embryo banks and surrogate motherhood.

All these techniques, if left unchecked, could lead to "a system of radical eugenics," or attempt

Ecuador searches for survivors of mudslides

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Rescue workers searched a sea of brown mud in eastern Ecuador for survivors of giant mudslides that entombed villages, buried buses and killed hundreds of people after a series of earthquakes.

As news of the disaster's magnitude trickled out from the isolated jungle area days after the mudslides, officials Quito dispatched armed forces' planes and helicopters to find and treat survivors.

"I don't want to cause alarm, but the truth is that the destruction is one grand scale," President Leon Febres Cordero told journalists Monday after flying over the hardest hit areas, about 195 kilometres south east of Quito.

Provincial officials said hundreds of people had been killed and thousands left homeless.

The earthquakes also snapped Ecuador's most important oil pipeline. The break forced the government to indefinitely cut off oil exports, the source of more than 60 per cent of the country's export earnings in recent years.

At least two powerful earthquakes and several smaller ones jolted eastern Ecuador Thursday night and Friday. They were followed by mudslides that crashed

through bridges, buried roads and devastated many villages in the Amazon Basin east of the spine-like mountain range running the length of the country.

"There are hundreds of dead," Jorge Gonzalez, a senior administrator in Napo province, said in a telephone interview with the Associated Press. "Medical attention is needed urgently for the injured."

He said he could not be more specific in his estimate of casualties, but several newspapers in the capital published unconfirmed reports that more than 300 people were killed.

Two U.S. Air Force planes landed in Quito on Sunday, bringing the first foreign relief supplies. The U.S. embassy said the 50 tons (45 metric tons) of supplies included 5,000 blankets and 500 tents.

Mr. Cordero met in emergency session with his cabinet on Monday to discuss relief measures.

In Quito, where the quakes panicked residents and caused property damage, officials initially reported no casualties from the tremors. Rescue officials said confirmation of casualties and damages in the eastern jungle was slow reaching Quito because of the region's isolation.

Prague begins trial of 5 Jazz Section activists

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (AP) — Five independent Czech cultural activists went on trial Tuesday in what dissidents and Western human rights groups are calling the biggest political trial in the Soviet Bloc country since 1979.

The five are leading representatives of the Jazz Section, an independent publishing and musical organisation that claims 7,000 members. The trial was drawn strong criticism from human rights groups and Western governments.

Jazz Section leader Karel Srp and Vladimir Konrili were escorted into the courtroom in handcuffs that were later taken off.

They were the only two of seven leading members of the group, arrested on Sept. 2, 1986, who remained in jail pending trial. The others had been released in December and January.

The other defendants who appeared in court were Josef Skalnik, Tomas Krivanek and Cestmir Hanat.

All five were charged with unauthorised economic activity, a charge that carries a sentence of two to eight years.

Srp, Konrili and Skalnik also were charged with preparing to damage socialist property, punishable with one to six years in jail.

Charter 77 signatory and playwright Václav Havel, who has served 4½ years in jail was among some 200 supporters jamming the corridor outside the courtroom.

Havel said he was there to show support for his friends in the Jazz Section.

Mobs attack Indian-owned shops in Madagascar town

ANTANANARIVO (R) — Mobs attacked about a dozen Indian-owned shops Monday evening in the Madagascar town of Fianarantsoa, resident said Tuesday by telephone.

The security force rapidly intervened and ended the disturbances within two hours, they told Reuters from the town, 300 kilometres south of the capital, Antananarivo.

Residents said they heard gunfire and reports that at least two people were wounded or killed in the rioting.

The Indian and Pakistani community in Madagascar, which numbers about 10,000, came under attack last month in the southern towns of Antsirabe, Farafangana and Tolitara, apparently because native Madagascaners resent their relative prosperity.

Hundreds of the Indians, known locally as Karana, have abandoned their businesses in the provinces and fled to the capital for safety.

Long queues have formed outside the French embassy and the Madagascar Ministry of Interior as the Indians try to arrange visas to leave the island either temporarily or permanently.

The Indians are mostly leaving for the nearby French-ruled islands of Mayotte or Reunion or direct to Europe.

Soviets free another dissident

MOSCOW (AP) — Dissident scientist Andrei Sakharov has said that a human rights activist whose freedom he had sought was released from a prison in the Ukraine.

Dr. Sakharov told the Associated Press by telephone that he received a call Monday night from Genrikh Altunyan, who said he had been released earlier in the day and was at his home in Kharkov.

Altunyan, 53, was among the founders of the Initiative Group for the Defence of Human Rights, one of the first Soviet dissident networks established to monitor the government's compliance with international accords on personal freedoms.

He was sentenced in 1969 to three years in a labour camp for his activities with the group. He was arrested again in 1980 and sentenced to seven years in labour camp to be followed by five years in exile.

The church, it says, cannot ignore the "legitimate aspirations of sterile couples" to have a child. But the child "is not an object to which one has a right, nor can be considered as an object of ownership," it says. "Rather, a child is a gift" of God and as such, couples should not use a morally illicit method to acquire a child.

The document says at one point that if technical means facilitate fertilisation, it can be morally acceptable. It does not elaborate. Italian experts said they interpreted this as the church's sanction of using sperm gathered after a sexual act, and not through masturbation which the Vatican condemns, to inject into the uterus during the woman's fertile period for fertilisation.

The document was put together over several years with the help of scientists, theologians and church officials, the Vatican said.

It says the church is against all forms of test-tube births because it is "immoral to produce human embryos destined to be exploited as disposable biological material" and because fertilisation is realised through the actions of third parties like doctors and biologists, "establishing the domination of technology over the origin and destiny of the human person."

Central to the Vatican reasoning are two principles espoused by the church — that the life of every human being must be respected from the moment of conception and that the only acceptable way to give birth to a child is through natural sexual acts between married spouses.

"No biologist or doctor can reasonably claim, by virtue of his scientific competence, to be able to decide on people's origin and destiny," the document says in the introduction. "It would be ... illusory to claim that scientific research and its applications are morally neutral. Science without conscience can only lead to man's ruin."

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COLUMNS 7 & 8

Hillary believes Everest is highest peak

NEW DELHI (R) — Sir Edmund Hillary, one of the two first men on the summit of Mount Everest, said Tuesday he still believed it to be the world's highest peak despite an assertion made last week another peak was higher. "It's interesting, but I have yet to be convinced," said Hillary, now New Zealand's high commissioner in New Delhi, commenting on a statement by an American scientific team that K-2, regarded as the Himalayas' second highest peak, might be a few metres higher than Everest. "For so many years people have been claiming that this or that other peak was higher, and it proved not to be the case," he told Reuters. "So I basically doubt it this time." Everest's height is generally accepted as 8,848 metres and that of K-2 as 8,611 metres. But the University of Washington team, using sophisticated measuring devices, said their calculations meant K-2 could be higher. Asked how it would feel to discover that he might have climbed only the world's second highest mountain, Hillary, who conquered Everest along with Tenzing Norgay Sherpa on May 29, 1953, said: "I don't feel really deeply on the topic. We have had 34 years of credit for climbing the highest peak," he told Reuters. If by some strange chance it turned out not to be true, we should still have had a good run. "Anyway," he said, "I basically don't believe it."

China suspends magazine with nude photo

HONG KONG (R) — A Chinese magazine has been banned after carrying a photograph of a naked 13-year-old girl, a publishing firm has said. The Chinese authorities also recalled 100,000 copies of the magazine "Special Zone Literature," an official of the joint publishing company said. The company is a pro-Peking firm which markets mainland publications in Hong Kong. The magazine, published in the Shenzhen Special Economic Zone which borders Hong Kong, carried the picture in its January issue. The publishing company official declined to comment on the future of the magazine's editorial staff. The editors of two Shenzhen newspapers were sacked in January as part of China's current campaign against bourgeois liberalism. The newspapers, Youth Daily and Workers Daily, were closed down.

Largest painting goes on display

LONDON (R) — A picture of a legendary king, the largest painting put up for auction and a work which once stirred controversy over an obvious display of nudity, went on display ahead of a sale in London later this month. Winter Solstice, painted by Swedish artist Carl Larsson between 1911 and 1915, was expected to fetch up to £1 million (\$1.5 million) at a sale of Scandinavian paintings on March 25, the auctioneers Sotheby's told Reuters. The work, which consists of two huge canvases and measures 6.5 metres by 13.5 metres, had gone on display at London's Barbican centre because it was too large to fit into Sotheby's galleries, a spokesman said. The painting shows King Domalde offering himself naked as a sacrifice to the Gods to save his people from famine. "It sparked controversy when it was completed as one of the murals for the National Museum of Stockholm because of its violence and obvious show of nudity," the spokesman said. The largest painting to be auctioned so far was a three metre by 26 metre canvas called F-111 by James Rosenquist which was sold last November.

Duffy murder suspect to go on trial

BOULDER, Montana (AP) — One of two men charged in the shotgun slaying of movie star Patrick Duffy's parents is expected to argue this week he was coerced into taking part in the crime, court papers show. Jury selection was begun in a district court in the trial of Kenneth Miller, 19. Sean Wentz, 19, Miller's alleged accomplice in the slaying of Terrence and Marie Duffy will be tried separately. Patrick Duffy, who plays Bobby Ewing on the popular television series Dallas, has said he will not attend the trial. State district Judge Frank Davis said Miller's trial is expected to last up to two weeks, especially after the Montana supreme court chastised him last week for rushing jury selection in another trial. Miller and Wentz are charged with two counts each of deliberate homicide, robbery and assault. Prosecutor John Connor Jr. has not said whether he will seek the death penalty.

Police detain 82-year-old drug suspect

IRUN, Spain (R) — Spanish police arrested an 82-year-old Dutchman with 7.5 kilos of heroin in his car, officials said. The man was detained when he tried to enter Spain from France at an international bridge, crossing in this northern border city.

'Supermarkets fail in China'

HONG KONG (R) — Supermarkets, which have changed shopping habits in the West, have failed in China, a report from the official China News Service said. In a report mentioned in Hong Kong, the agency said that many of the more than 150 supermarkets in China had closed down recently for lack of business. Several supermarkets which have opened in Peking over the past four years closed their doors last month, the agency said. Sales in the city's 33 supermarkets were down by 62 per cent last year from 1985. Five of the nine supermarkets in the southern city of Canton went out of business because they could not compete with other state-owned stores, the agency said. "While we must maintain our open-door policy, this shows we cannot follow blindly anything which may be good in the West," the agency said.

Wheels of justice grind slowly

NEW DELHI (R) — Seekers after justice in India face a long wait, according to figures released by the government. More than 150,000 cases are pending before the Indian supreme court, and just over 2,000 have been at that stage for a decade or longer. Twenty thousands have been waiting for three years or more. In a statement to the upper house of parliament, the government said that apart from increasing the number of supreme court judges, they would also be made to work more days each year. In addition, a complete review of India's legal system would be conducted to find ways to minimise bureaucracy and to streamline procedures. The statement also revealed wide differences in the performance of Indian high courts. Just one court in Uttar Pradesh state had a waiting list of nearly 300,000 cases, while in the entire state of Sikkim only 56 high court cases were pending.

Sinatra has scar tissue operation

LOS ANGELES (R) — Frank Sinatra has had his third operation in four months, this time for the removal of excess scar tissue, his press agent said. "The removal of the tissue was a very, very superficial procedure and Sinatra should leave the Eisenhower Medical Centre, in Palm Springs, California, in a couple of days," press agent Lee Solters said. The 71-year-old singer, who earns an estimated \$3.5 million a year, had a foot-long (30-cm) section of his intestines and an abscess removed in a two-hour operation at the centre last November. A hospital spokesman said there were no complications and no evidence of cancer. After appearing in an episode of the television series Magnum P.I., starring Tom Selleck, Sinatra returned to the hospital in January for unidentified surgery. Solters said the removal of the scar tissue stemmed from the November operation.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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Both vulnerable North deals.

READ 'EM AND REAP

West led the top of his spade sequence, and a natural play for declarer would be to allow that to run round to his hand. That would guarantee three tricks in the suit and seven overall. The only place then to look for the two extra tricks would be in the club suit.

That, however, would require not only a successful finesse in the suit, but a 4-3 break as well. Such a combination is considerably against the odds.

The opening lead almost surely marked East for the queen of spades. If that were so, a more promising line presented itself. The diamond suit could be set up if it broke 3-3, or 4-2 with one hand having a doubleton honor.

Declarer won the king of spades at trick one, cashed the ace of diamonds and came to hand with the king of hearts to lead a low diamond. East's king won, but he could not declare no harm. His heart return was won on the table and a spade was led to the jack. When that held, it was all over but the shouting. Declarer continued with the jack of diamonds to the queen, and he still had the ace of spades as an entry to get back to his hand to cash the long diamonds. Declarer ended up with an overtrick.

The bidding:

North	East	South	West
1♣	Pass	1♣	Pass
1♥	Pass	1♥	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠.

It is all very well to know that every card tells a story. You have to learn to read the book.

We do not envy North's plight at his third turn. He had started to describe his distribution, but he had not yet shown his strength. He eventually decided that, although his shape was not ideal, a rebid of two no trump gave a reasonably accurate picture of his holding. South had just enough to go on to game.

